



***Annual
Report
2010-11***



Charity Number: 1112326

Friends, Families & Travellers

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Introduction to FFT

FFT is a membership organisation run by a Trustee Board, which in 2010/11 was made up of ten Trustees, five of whom were Travellers and two of whom were lawyers specialising in Traveller issues.

FFT is the only national charity (registered charity no. 1112326) which works on behalf of all Gypsies and Travellers regardless of ethnicity, culture or background. FFT is also a non-profit making company limited by guarantee (no. 3597515).



We provide casework, advice and information to Gypsies and Travellers directly, either by phone or by outreach work to sites. We also provide advice on issues concerning the travelling communities to third party organisations.

We offer advice and advocacy for individual Gypsies and Travellers, families and communities.

We provide training and awareness raising seminars to mainstream agencies within the voluntary and statutory sectors to help them to deliver appropriate and culturally sensitive services to Gypsies and Travellers.

We disseminate and share knowledge and information about good practice for working with Gypsies and Travellers to a wide range of inquirers, including students, voluntary and statutory agencies and the media.

We provide community support, health and wellbeing outreach services to Gypsies and Travellers, helping individuals and families to access into the mainstream agencies best suited to meet their needs.

We facilitate and mentor local self support groups to empower individuals, families and communities to fulfil their potential and to take greater control over their own lives. We also work to support and build the capacity of other local

Introduction to FFT

Continuation...

grass roots Gypsy and Traveller groups and organisations.

We work with young Gypsies and Travellers to help them to overcome the barriers to inclusion that they experience and to participate more fully within mainstream society.

We carry out research, in partnership with academic institutions, to build and promote greater knowledge and understanding of the issues that affect the lives of the travelling communities.

Working with local individuals and groups from the travelling communities we respond to the policies and proposals of local and regional planning bodies and provide expert evidence to Examinations in Public of Development Plan Documents.

We supply expert witness statements on site provision and other Gypsy and Traveller needs at planning inquiries to assist Gypsies and Travellers to secure their own sites or to influence decisions to evict from unauthorised sites.

We participate within wider equality and diversity groups and fora to ensure that the interests of Gypsies and Travellers are not overlooked within plans and strategies aimed at developing a more just and equal society.

We work in our own right and in partnership with other Gypsy and Traveller organisations to campaign for legal reform so that the rights and needs of the travelling communities are fully and adequately addressed.

Report of the Chair - Judy Pointing



Despite the challenges in the political and economic environment FFT has had another very busy and successful year.

We have continued to deliver a wide range of projects in the fields of health, mental health, work with young people and general community support. Other work has included training and seminars, policy and lobbying, and advice and information, including a large amount of casework.

We successfully completed our Tackling Race Inequalities Fund programme, which ended in June 2011. The evaluation report on the programme is available on our website.

We have continued to review our internal processes to ensure that FFT is an effective and well run organisation providing a high quality service. Achievements in the last year include passing the Health Information Standard and initiating PQASSO quality assurance.

We are most grateful to our funders for their support. They include the Big Lottery, Children in Need, the Equality and Human Rights Commission, the Department of Health, and the Irish Government Emigrant Services.

Funding successes include being awarded £86k from the Government's Transition Fund to work towards transforming the organisation to make it more sustainable in the longer term.

We plan to do this by seeking to win service delivery contracts, building up our membership and volunteer base, and optimising our web based offers, including training and publications.

There have been a number of staff changes during the year. We would like to thank Candy Sheridan for her work in the East of England and Sally Woodbury for her work in the South West. Both

We are looking at new ways of communicating and involving people in our work and now have an FFT Facebook page with around 1,000 members.

Visit us:
[facebook.com/
FriendsFamilies
andTravellers](https://www.facebook.com/FriendsFamiliesandTravellers)

Report of the Chair - Judy Pointing

Continuation...

have now left FFT. Thanks also to Siobhan McSorley and Henry Chapman, who have also left.

The year has been productive in other ways too - Gemma Challenger, our Mental Health and Wellbeing Worker, has given birth to a baby girl and is currently on maternity leave.

Emma Nuttall, our Advice and Policy Manager, is also on maternity leave with her baby due soon, and Abbie Kirkby is due to follow suit later this month. We wish them all well and look forward to welcoming them back in due course.

The success of any organisation lies mainly in its staff, and nowhere is this more true than at FFT. We are fortunate to have an extraordinary staff team and the trustees would like to pay tribute to their hard work and dedication. Thank you all.

Looking ahead, 2011-2012 promises to be another challenging year with a number of key funding streams coming to an end next in March. With the imminent eviction of 86 families at Dale Farm, and various national policies in the pipeline that do not augur well for Gypsies and Travellers, there is clearly much work still to be done in the struggle to achieve equality and justice for Gypsies and Travellers.

Our Trustees

Our Trustees during 2010/11 were -

Our Director, Chris Whitwell, is also Company Secretary.

Judy Pointing (Chair)
Neil Ansell (Vice Chair)
Justine Compton (Honorary Treasurer)
Marc Willers
Liz Watkins
Tony Thompson
Rob Torkington
Greg Yates
Charmaine Vallar
Charlotte Jackson

Report of the Director - Chris Whitwell



It is difficult to do justice to the various events of the past year in the space of a relatively short report, nor is it possible to select an overriding theme that represents the year's progress and achievements. In so many areas it has felt that where progress has been made it has been against a tidal wave of political change that, far from securing greater equality and social justice for Gypsies and Travellers, has created and is continuing to create enormous threats for the travelling communities. Most worrying of all is that the public and political discourse around Gypsies and Travellers continues to carry the implicit message that 'they' are not really an integral part of UK society but some sort of race apart which either deserves our sympathy or our disapprobation, according to where we think we stand.

To assign Gypsies and Travellers the role of 'the other' when they have been part of our society for hundreds of years is both offensive and demeaning but it occurs all the time on the pages of our newspapers and in the mouths of politicians. Repeatedly there is reference to the views of 'the local community' as if Gypsies and Travellers, some of whom may have lived in the area for longer than many of the bricks and mortar residents, were not part of that community. It will indeed be difficult to bring about the societal changes that are so desperately needed until the deeply embedded racism and prejudice against Gypsies and Travellers that is so endemic in our society begins to be eliminated.

Against this somewhat pessimistic backdrop, I am pleased to report that much good work was carried out during 2010/11 by FFT and by the partner organisations with which it works. A particularly important factor in enabling such progress was the continuation throughout 2010/11 of the major funding stream awarded under the Government's 'Tackling Race Inequality' programme. As well as successfully delivering the targets and outcomes of the project we have been able to form valuable links with many of the other

Report of the Director - Chris Whitwell

Continuation...

funded organisations. This has enabled us to position the issue of the inequalities experienced by Gypsies and Travellers within the wider Race Equality agenda, working with other BME organisations to try to ensure that the achievement of race equality is firmly on the Government's agenda.

During the delivery of the Tackling Race Inequality projects we were able to expand our staffing level to 19 and our annual turnover to around £500,000. We were particularly pleased to be able to recruit new staff from the Gypsy and Traveller communities and, for the first time, to employ Regional outreach staff outside our base in the South East. With the ending of this programme we have needed to reduce our staff complement but are pleased that we have been able to retain 15 members of our fantastic staff team in 2011/12.

We have also made good progress on our other major projects such as those funded by the Big Lottery and the Equality and Human Rights Commission and further information about the work that we have done in these areas is set out elsewhere in the pages of this report. We were particularly pleased, in the latter part of 2010/11 to have been awarded continuation funding by BBC Children in Need for our work with children and young people, and by Lankelly Chase for our work on mental health and wellbeing.

A particularly important element of FFT's work is in the area of health, including health policy and health promotion. With the impending changes to the National Health Service it is crucial that the focus is not solely on the needs of 'patients' but also on the needs of those people who are not 'patients' because of the barriers they face in accessing any type of health service. Such people may include Gypsies and Travellers but also other 'chronically excluded' groups such as asylum seekers, street homeless people and ex-offenders leaving custody. Our concern is to ensure that the National Health Service should work for all, not

Report of the Director - Chris Whitwell

Continuation...

just for those people who already have the opportunity, through various mechanisms, to make their voices heard. Our Health Strategy Manager, Zoe Matthews, campaigns tirelessly at national level to ensure that the healthcare needs of Gypsies and Travellers are not sidelined within the new NHS landscape.

Despite all the excellent work that is being delivered, which brings real and tangible improvements to the lives of individuals and families, there are still many challenges to face and there appears to be a worrying disconnect between the acceptance by many politicians and decision makers of the need to address the inequalities experienced by Gypsies and Travellers and the formulation of wider policies and strategies which will inevitably widen those inequalities. Two particular areas of concern are the proposed changes to the Legal Aid system which will make it difficult for Gypsies and Travellers to seek justice in challenging the decisions of statutory authorities, and the localism agenda which could well encourage rather than minimise the worst aspects of local prejudice and racism.

A key task in the period ahead is to ensure that politicians and decision makers are equipped with a clear knowledge and understanding of these issues so that the position of Gypsies and Travellers is not undermined by the unintended consequences of policies that have not been adequately thought through. In order to achieve this it will be vital for all the organisations working on behalf of Gypsies and Travellers to speak with a very clear, united, voice so that the important messages that we need to convey are not diluted. Friends, Families and Travellers is committed to working with all other Gypsy/Traveller organisations to contribute in a consensual way to this united approach.

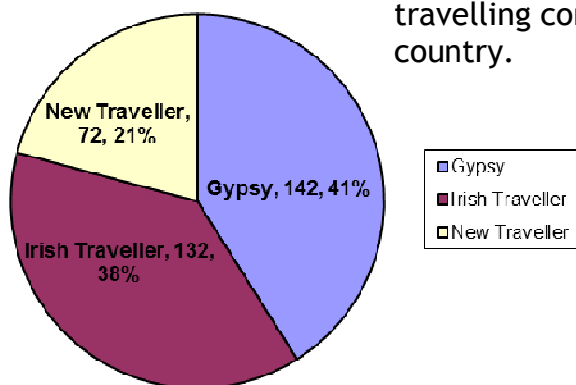
The Advice and Information Unit

A high quality front line service for Gypsies and Travellers throughout the UK

There are no accurate figures for Gypsies and Travellers in the UK, but various sources, e.g the Council of Europe, have estimated the number at around 300,000 comprising about 200,000 housed and 100,000 in caravans. However, in March this year, 2011, there was a category for Romany Gypsies/Irish Travellers for the very first time in the Census. Whether this will give us a more accurate picture of true numbers remains to be seen, as many Gypsies and Travellers may not declare their ethnicity on the form.

The latest estimate, from the Equalities and Human Rights Commission research of winter 2009 'Assessing local housing authorities' progress in meeting the accommodation needs of Gypsy and Traveller communities in England' is that about 6,000 additional pitches are needed in England within the next five years. This is nearly the same again as the number that currently exist on council sites (6,942 pitches Jan 2011). There is virtually no progress in providing these additional pitches, and the mechanism that might have provided these pitches, the Regional Spatial Strategies, with their targets for local authorities on pitch provision, were revoked by the current government on 6 July 2010.

FFT offers advice, information and casework to all Gypsies and Travellers who seek our help and we monitor the profile of our client base to ensure that the service is reaching all sections of the travelling communities and all regions of the country.



During 2010/11 our caseworkers dealt with a wide variety of cases from all across mainland UK, including Wales.

Approximately 41% of our casework was with Gypsies, 38% was with Irish Travellers and 21% was with new Travellers.

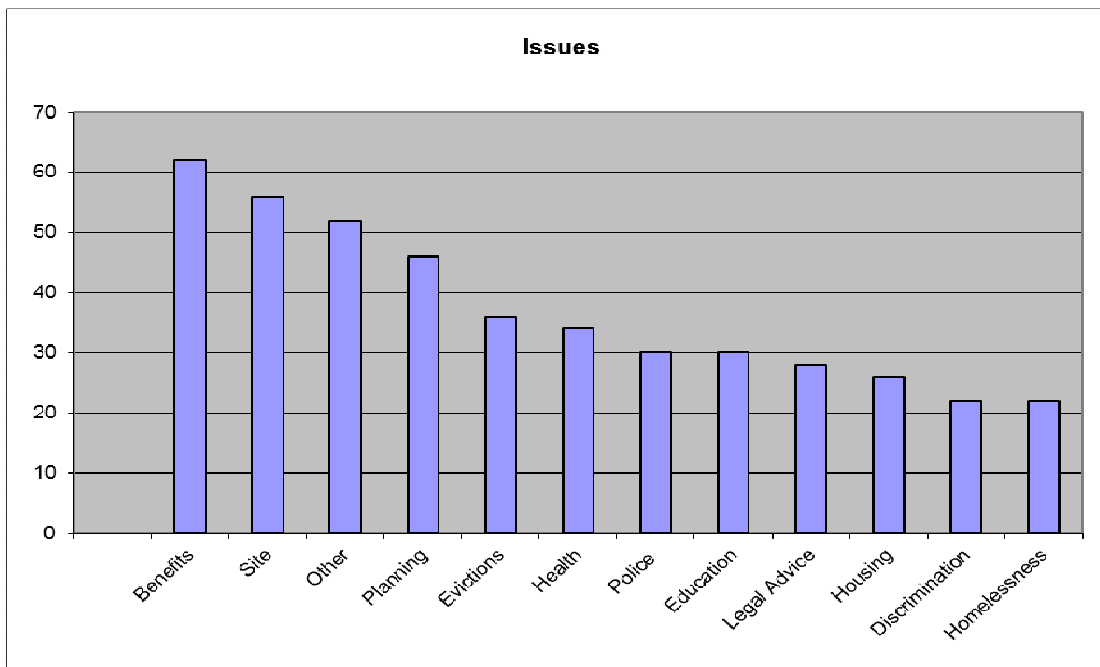
The Advice and Information Unit

Continuation...

The categories of casework that we provided covered a wide range of issues and problems although, unsurprisingly, many revolved around evictions, sites, housing and planning issues.

The full breakdown is as follows for 460 cases -

- 46 cases about planning
- 22 cases about discrimination
- 36 cases about evictions
- 22 cases about homelessness
- 26 cases about housing
- 30 cases about the police
- 52 cases about other issues
- 56 cases about sites
- 62 cases about benefits
- 16 cases about grants
- 28 cases seeking legal advice
- 30 cases about education
- 34 cases about health



Emma Nuttall
Advice and Policy Manager

Case Studies

These are just a few of the many cases that we have dealt with over the past year, but which give a flavour of the serious issues faced by our clients and the help that we are able to offer.

- We have seen success this year with a permanent planning permission for a private Gypsy site in Sussex in the AONB (Area of Outstanding National Beauty). This has enabled the family to have a secure base and access healthcare and other services, away from the stress of constant evictions.
- An Irish Traveller who does not have a permanent site to live on uses our FFT address as a c/o address. The Traveller received notification of a benefits medical assessment but unfortunately didn't collect the mail in time and because of this the benefits department stopped the sickness benefit. This Traveller, and also his sister, have learning difficulties, meaning their Mother continues to give them a high level of support in their adult life. The family had enough to deal with without having their benefits stopped and having to go through the process of reapplying - especially seeing as they have no literacy skills. We appealed this decision and the benefits department took on board the reasons why and restarted the benefit for this vulnerable Traveller.
- We supported a Romany Gypsy who had reported a random attack against him by a group of other men. Reporting such a crime and going through the justice system can be a complicated process, so we ensured that he was supported by the Witness Care Unit and understood the procedure so the family felt more informed about the course of action. Unfortunately the judge let the perpetrators off with a suspended sentence and we are still waiting to hear back about a claim for compensation.

Case Studies

Continuation...

- We worked with an Irish Traveller on an issue of a disputed insurance claim. The insurance company was not forthcoming to begin with, but after we provided supplementary evidence to back up the claim they changed their tune and agreed to pay out £3000.
- An Irish Traveller we work with in Bedfordshire was fleeing from DV and we supported her to move from where she lived in housing on to a pitch on a Council site in a different area. This has meant this Traveller is able to live free from abuse and in accommodation that is culturally suitable to her.
- There was an encampment of about 25 Travellers in Sussex, which was threatened with an imminent eviction. Some of this group of Travellers had already been evicted twice in the month before this eviction. There were also a lot of children living on the encampment. Alongside a solicitor at the Travellers Advice Team we were able to negotiate a prolonged stay for the Travellers. Unfortunately this was only a matter of an extra few days but this allowed the Travellers to organise themselves ready for another move.
- We have helped several Travellers living on unauthorised encampments to gain access to the Dogs Trust's Vet Card Scheme, which gives free and subsidised vet treatment to dogs whose owners are homeless.

Policy and Planning

A key element of our work during the past year has been to contribute to national policy development and to lobby for change. We, along with the London Gypsy Traveller Unit and the Irish Traveller Movement, are members of the Traveller Law Reform Project (TLRP), which aims to bring about positive changes in the law in relation to the rights and needs of all the Traveller communities, and monitor the implementation of current legislation.

The TLRP also provides administrative support to the All Party Parliamentary Group for Gypsies, Roma and Travellers, which is a parliamentary group committed to raising the social inclusion of Travellers and improving relations between the settled and Traveller community. The group currently has forty four members.

We are members of the Ministry of Justice's Independent Hate Crime Advisory Group as Gypsies and Travellers have been identified by the government as a group which is disproportionately affected by hate crime and who have received less attention and intervention in the past, and the aim is to redress this.

We are also members of Sussex Police's Independent Gypsy and Traveller Advisory Group, which we helped set up, and which has been a very successful forum to discuss policing of the Travelling community and reductions in actions such as Section 61 evictions by the police, potential tensions round large Gypsy funerals and the burning of fires, markers on Gypsy/Traveller vehicles, stop and searches, and other pertinent issues.

The advent of a new Government has brought in its train proposed changes to the planning system. The abolition of Regional Planning Structures was a backwards step for the delivery of more Gypsy and Traveller sites as it removed the push mechanism to ensure that local authorities identified land for sites in their development plans. The loss of the regional tier of planning

Policy and Planning

Continuation...

means that in future the levels of provision to be planned for will have to be argued out at local level (there are in excess of 300 local planning authorities in England). Attending local examinations in public in any number would seem to be beyond the resources available to organisations such as FFT. The changes seem set therefore to make it even more difficult for the Travelling community to engage in any meaningful and effective way with the planning system.

Now it is just down to local authorities to allocate land for pitches, with no regional direction, we have, as predicted, seen no progress in site delivery in the last year. We are very concerned that these changes to planning will have a disproportionately negative impact on Gypsies and Travellers.

The Government is also repealing Circular 1/06 'Planning for Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Sites' and brought out a consultation document 'Planning for Traveller Sites'. Unfortunately the new planning document represents a huge backwards step which will result in making it harder for Gypsies and Travellers to obtain planning permission for sites. This is particularly galling given that the system set up by the previous Government was beginning to bear fruit.

A more positive change is that the Government have finally put into place security of tenure on local authority Gypsy sites by now including these sites under the Mobile Homes Act. All local authorities have to issue new site licence agreements to their residents incorporating this change.

We will continue to work with partner organisations and in our own right to try to achieve fairness and equality for all Gypsies and Travellers.

Emma Nuttall
Advice and Policy Manager

Staff



**Chris Whitwell,
Director of Friends, Families and
Travellers**

Chris was appointed Director in March 2006. He was previously working with FFT on a consultancy basis having held senior positions in the public and voluntary sectors.

**Emma Nuttall,
Advice and Policy Manager**

Emma initially started working for FFT as a volunteer. She is now the Advice Work Manager and has been working for FFT for over 10 years. Emma has a key role in policy work and represents the organisation in a number of national fora.



**Abbie Kirkby
Caseworker**

Abbie has been working with FFT as a national caseworker since July 2007. Her background includes working with marginalised communities both in England and abroad.

**Sarah Mann,
Training and Capacity Building Manager**

Sarah joined FFT in August 2007. Her background is in community and environmental work, managing projects and training in the public and voluntary sectors.



Staff

**Zoe Matthews,
Health Strategy Manager**

Zoe has a background in Psychiatric Nursing, Anthropology and Sociology. She has worked extensively in Health Promotion, where she specialised in the Health of Gypsies and Travellers. Initially joining as a volunteer, Zoe has now been working with FFT for over ten years.



**Avril Fuller,
Community Outreach Worker**

Avril is of Gypsy heritage and started as a volunteer with FFT before becoming a paid member of staff in 2003. Her background is with Traveller Education Services. Avril specialises in working with vulnerable people/learning difficulties/disabilities.

**Marya Sadouni,
Community Support Worker**

Marya, a Romany Gypsy, joined FFT in 2008, having previously been a volunteer. She worked previously as a carer in the healthcare profession and trained as a Doula nurse. She also works with FFT on an oral hygiene project: helping members of the community access dental services.



**Gemma Challenger,
Well-being Support Worker**

Gemma is a New Traveller and started with FFT in February 2007. Her background is in learning disabilities.

Staff



**Rebekah (Bek) Dilley,
Community Support Worker**

Bek joined FFT in April 2008 as one of our two Community Support Workers. From a Traveller background, Bek has worked in a number of previous posts including managing the security at fairs and festivals and managing the Brighton Pride Parade.

**Clare Bingham,
Young Person's Co-ordinator**

Clare's background is working with young homeless people including street homeless and sexual health outreach worker and later as a youth worker.



**Lisa Bruton,
Mental Health and Well Being Community
Development Worker.**

Lisa is a trainee psychotherapist with Brighton PCT. At FFT, she is involved in mental health research and Travellers, and creating a pool of Wellbeing resources for the community.

**Suzanna King,
Finance Officer**

Suzanna joined FFT in November 2005. Her background is in arts administration, working in Young People's and Children's Theatre.



Staff



**Michelle Gavin,
Caseworker.**

Michelle has been working for FFT as a National Caseworker since Jan 2010. Michelle is of Irish Traveller heritage through marriage. She is a founder member of GAIT (Gypsy and Irish Travellers Association South East) and previously worked as a volunteer caseworker and advocate.

**Liz MacPherson,
Training Officer**

Liz joined FFT in January 2010. Her background includes teaching at secondary level, and prior to FFT working for two other Sussex based Gypsy and Traveller groups.



**Jazka Atterbury,
Well-Being Community Development Worker**

Jazka joined in 2008 and has Roma Gypsy as part of her heritage. Jazka has 17 years' experience working in community engagement, empowerment and community development and grassroots experience working in youth and community, social housing, learning disability and mental health.

Staff Changes

Four members of staff left us during 2010/11 when their short term contracts came to an end.

Sally Woodbury, was a Community Development Worker employed on the TRIF project in the South West. Sally is a Romany Gypsy who brought great personal experience and commitment to her work, fighting tirelessly on behalf of her community.

Candy Sheridan, an Irish Traveller, was Sally's equivalent in the East of England. Candy had already built a huge reputation and was greatly respected as a campaigner on behalf of Gypsies and Travellers and she too made a great contribution to the work of FFT. Candy continues to occupy a key role as Vice Chair of the Gypsy Council.

Siobhan McSorley worked as a caseworker on our EHRC funded project, bringing great organisational skills and ability to her post. She left us to pursue a nursing degree.

Henry Chapman, a Romany Gypsy, worked on the TRIF project as our Community Engagement Worker. He made a good contribution to the aims of the project, getting many Gypsies and Travellers onto the electoral register, although the latter months of his employment were dogged by ill health.

We thank the 'leavers' for the excellent contributions that they have made to the work of FFT and wish them well in their future endeavours.

Our Consultant Experts

Our Annual Report would not be complete without a word of gratitude to two former members of staff who, although no longer on the payroll, are still an important part of the Friends, Families and Travellers organisation and who carry out specialist work for us from time to time on a consultancy basis.

Steve Staines

Steve Staines, who was one of the original founders of FFT, worked for us for three years as Planning Officer, funded by the Allen Lane Foundation and Garden Court Chambers, to whom we are profoundly grateful. Although Steve is no longer funded to work directly for FFT, the Traveller Law Reform Project (of which we are a partner) has been able to retain his services in order to enable the vital planning work that he does to continue. Steve fulfils a unique role in testing and challenging the extent to which local authorities are making proper provision for Gypsies and Travellers within their Development Plans and you can read his comments elsewhere in this Annual Report.

Tammy Furey

Tammy Furey has been a highly valued member of Friends, Families and Travellers for nine years. Although, following the birth of her daughter, Megan, she is no longer an employee of FFT; she continues to provide valuable services on a consultancy basis. During this year she has worked closely with the FFT staff team to redesign our website to be more useful to Travellers needing advice and information, set up an FFT Facebook page and sourced and developed photo and video resources for FFT. She continues to update and maintain our website produce our Annual Reports and other literature.

Join Our Organisation



We are a membership organisation and we welcome new members. Membership runs from 1 April - 31 March each year and individual subscription rates are £10 per annum or £5 unwaged. Organisations may also join for an annual subscription of £25.

Membership entitles you to receive our quarterly Newsletter and to attend and vote at our Annual General Meetings. We are always pleased to hear from our members and to talk to them about the work that we are doing and, importantly, membership of our organisation means that you are helping us in our struggle to bring an end to the racism, marginalisation and social exclusion suffered by the travelling communities.

If you would like to join us simply contact Suzanna on 01273 234777 or email her: admin@gypsy-traveller.org.

You can also support us and keep up with current issues by joining us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/FriendsFamiliesandTravellers



Partnership Working

We believe that, if we are to bring about positive and lasting change, we need to develop and strengthen our partnerships with all those other organisations that are working on behalf of Gypsies and Travellers. These include other national organisations such as the Irish Traveller Movement in Britain as well as regional grass roots groups from all other Regions of the country. There are many groups doing excellent work in all areas of the country but it is important that we all speak together with a unified voice if we are to bring about the legal and social policy changes that are so urgently required in order to achieve greater equality and justice for Gypsies and Travellers.

FFT is one of the larger organisations working on behalf of Gypsies and Travellers but it does not necessarily seek to take a lead role in its various partnerships but rather to provide consensual support to strengthen the voice of Gypsies and Travellers.

We are also committed to working with and supporting other organisations working in the field of equalities and human rights, in particular other national organisations working in the field of Race Equality and organisations seeking to bring about greater equality and justice for chronically excluded groups. We wish to ensure that Gypsy and Traveller issues are not just seen as a self-contained bubble but as part of a wider movement towards securing a fairer, more just and equal society.

Reaching Communities



Our Community Support Workers Bek and Marya have continued to build on the confidence and trust of the Travelling Communities in Sussex which they began in years 1 and 2 of this project. The demand on workers continues to be high, and careful planning has been needed to manage complex and stressful casework demands to allow for events and training.

Casework

The two Community Support Workers have had contact with 480 Gypsies and Travellers across Sussex this year, with 270 supported to access mainstream services.

Many cases come through word of mouth referral through extended family. We know from experience that this is a trusted way of finding information and services. We are also finding that mainstream service providers are accessing information and support for Gypsy & Traveller clients and for themselves to provide a better service. This appears to be as a result of increased awareness amongst mainstream service providers of Gypsies and Travellers and of FFT.

The range of issues raised by clients continues to be very wide. Health and accommodation issues account for around half of cases. Debt, benefits (often appeals), child protection, mental health and dental services also feature regularly. Gypsies and Travellers have been supported to access nearly 80 different mainstream agencies.

The services we have worked closely with this year include: domestic violence services, Addaction (drug service), Victim Support, social services and Sussex Pathways, a charity offering mentoring support to prison leavers. In order to protect workers, we have limited caseload of child protection cases to 2 active cases per worker at any one time, referring further child protection cases to other workers in the Sussex outreach team.

Reaching Communities

Continuation...

Community Support workers given cultural awareness training to CABs in Sussex and received training from mainstream agencies in Domestic Violence and have achieved NVQ level 2 in Community Development.

Community Events

Feedback from previous training and events has allowed us to be far more focussed in our volunteering and training support this year. Diverse and relevant events have attracted higher levels of volunteering interest and we are now seeing clients who were supported to overcome challenging life situations in Years 1 & 2, much more able to volunteer or enter employment.

Events included:

An on-site event in partnership with Sussex Fire & Rescue Service using their events vehicle as a base. 2 Site residents were involved in planning the event. The Stroke Association, CAB and Census staff also attended. This was an excellent model as sites do not have community facilities or space for marquees etc. The Fire & Rescue Service were seen as a culturally acceptable agency to bring onto a site and we plan to roll this out further.

A well-being event held at Stoneywish Country Park, a quiet private park in a central location, to overcome the lack of facilities on sites. The site owners are sympathetic, allowed traditional campfire cooking and have a restored Gypsy caravan on the site. The event was planned with 5 community champions to share traditional and mainstream health and wellbeing remedies and techniques with health professionals and community members.

A Gypsy Roma Traveller History Month (GRTHM) in Ford Prison. 5 Traveller prisoners planned the event which they were keen to focus on families, food and music. The prisoners were supported to

Reaching Communities

Continuation...

prepare a Gypsy history display for staff and other prisoners. Prisoner's families were allowed to attend the traditional food and music day and had family portraits taken, something which many did not have. The event had positive outcomes for staff and prisoners and many of the families have since been supported too.

Training, Volunteering and Employment

We also saw 6 casework clients from previous years move into employment and 15 move into volunteering positions with FFT and other agencies.

4 Gypsies and Travellers took part in training including driving theory and a journalism and media course which developed cultural and social awareness and self-confidence.

Conclusion

The project has confirmed to us the benefits of a "whole family" approach to working with Gypsies and Travellers. Our Community Support Workers are part of a wider team which includes health, mental health, social care and work with young people and there is a very high degree of informal cross referral between team colleagues.

We have also had our experience reinforced of the power of referral onwards through the extended family networks within the Gypsy and Traveller communities and the importance of building a reputation and trust over time.

Sarah Mann
Training and Capacity Building Manager

Equality and Human Rights Commission

The EHRC funded capacity building work arising from casework on our national helpline.

Racially motivated hate crime

The project has allowed us to make a great deal of progress in developing awareness of racially motivated hate crime against Gypsies and Travellers. We have evidence around the level of hate crime experienced by our clients (21%). This, together with our case studies and experience from previous projects has allowed us to address this issue better with our clients and other agencies. We have learned that clients are not always aware of the hate crime element of their case or consider it “just what happens” and accept it as part of their lives. Through the project, we have made good contacts with local crime and disorder partnerships and found that their interest in Gypsy and Traveller hate crime is variable, but without exception, they have been receptive to cultural awareness training. A particular success from the project has been developing a local and national partnership with Victim Support. This has encompassed training for local groups, input in to diversity strategies and board briefings as well as providing tailored information for internal use.

Groups

The groups established arising from issues identified in casework have been very successful in empowering groups of Gypsies and Travellers to build support networks and acquire new skills - isolation often being a key barrier to empowerment. Our understanding of the factors which underpin casework issues has also developed through this work as our clients have been more exposed to opportunities and contacts and have raised their expectations of what might be available. This reinforces our experience of the need for a flexible approach to project planning, as groups quickly develop their own ideas about

Equality and Human Rights Commission

Continuation...



what support and development they need. Our training materials have also been useful for groups who have been able to cherry pick the elements they require eg. a model constitution.

A particularly useful illustration of the beneficial impacts of the work of the project has been the Craft Group, which was initially identified through unemployment and benefit dependency issues.

The group was brought together with the stimulus of working towards a craft day to be held locally to share and learn traditional Romany crafts of flower making, and flower baskets whilst cooking traditional Gypsy dishes (such as bacon pudding) over the campfire. The process of planning and delivering the day created an opportunity for members to reflect on the richness of Romany craft traditions, the importance of cultural continuity of craft skills as well as the opportunities for income generation and learning craft and business skills.



Members of the group have since proposed several initiatives that they are keen to take forward, which include inter-generational transmission of craft skills and Romany history as well as looking to develop a local skills base in craft manufacture and sales targeting seasonal and home-working opportunities which work well with family commitments.

Group members have experienced increases in confidence and cultural pride as well as increasing practical skills and networking within their communities. Members of the group have also expressed interest in other opportunities for engagement and volunteering which reflects increased aspirations and self-actualisation.

Community Development

The community development training allowed staff who have traditionally viewed themselves in a support role to see themselves and to practice

Equality and Human Rights Commission

Continuation...

more as enablers of community development - whilst recognising that we have a heavy caseload of clients needing support for crisis and extreme difficulties.

Domestic Violence

As with the issue of racially motivated hate crime, we have also developed awareness for ourselves and other agencies around the issue of Domestic Violence within the Travelling Communities. The work on DV has been supported by an excellent response from DV agencies willing to engage and much good training and awareness raising has taken place. We met with a wide range of stakeholders including Police, Women's Aid and Travellers to address the issue of Domestic Violence and Violence Against Women within the travelling communities.

We contributed to a South East Coast Ambulance Service DV protocol review and the West Sussex Domestic Violence Strategy Review. We are looking to continue working locally and feed issues up to national level.

Sarah Mann
Training and Capacity Building Manager

Tackling Race Inequalities Fund

Case study

The Somerset Romany Gypsy Advisory Group

The group designed the content of their own Gypsy and Traveller Cultural Awareness training. Group members became confident and competent to deliver cultural awareness training to statutory and voluntary sector organisations.

Two members of the Somerset Group have also completed the Citizens Advice Bureau advisor training, which was one day a week over ten weeks.

Members of the Somerset Group have also asked for further training which FFT has sourced: a 3 day Equalities course to be a Community Champion; a Human Rights training day; and Gypsy and Traveller law training course.

Funded by Communities & Local Government, our Tackling Race Inequalities programme had 3 strands:

1. Capacity Building

Capacity Building work took part in the South West, South East and East of England regions. We worked with grassroots groups in these regions to strengthen their voice and to build up their ability to be more sustainable as organisations.

We worked to establish Gypsy Traveller forums where there were none, brokering positive relationships with the Gypsy Traveller communities and local authorities. Seven Forums have been established in Kent, Hampshire, West Sussex, Taunton and Deane, Sedgemoor, Norfolk and South Somerset. FFT has supported Traveller groups to participate effectively in these forums.

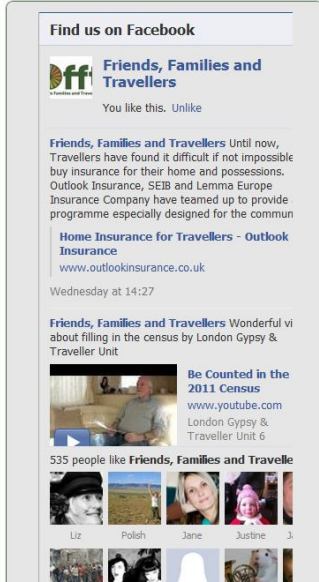
The level of support that grassroot groups required varied considerably, so support was tailored to the needs of the specific group. Groups received training on planning issues, site developments, equalities and discrimination issues, understanding how councils and councillors work, and gaining the confidence to speak at public meetings.

FFT increased its reach by becoming active at regional events. For example, more than a thousand people attended the Gypsy Fair on 12 and 13 June 2010, at Milton Country Park in Cambridge. In November, FFT supported the re-launch of The Gypsy Council at an event which debated the impact of 'The Big Society' on Gypsies & Travellers, with break off training workshops on issues such as planning.

FFT organised a seminar on 13 January 2011 in the South East about Community Land Trusts (CLTs) and self-building Gypsy sites, which 62 people attended. The attendees were half Travellers and half local authority officers. Speakers included Bristol City Council talking about their site self-

Tackling Race Inequalities Fund

Continuation...



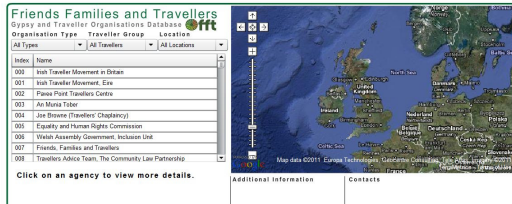
www.facebook.com/FriendsFamiliesandTravellers

build scheme, and The Homes and Communities Agency and Wessex Home Improvement Loans talking about finance available.

The main FFT website at www.gypsy-traveller.org was primarily redesigned to address the needs of the Travelling community. Information was re-organised into sections entitled: Your Family, Your Rights, Where you Live, Your Work. There are also sections about FFT and the work of the organisation.

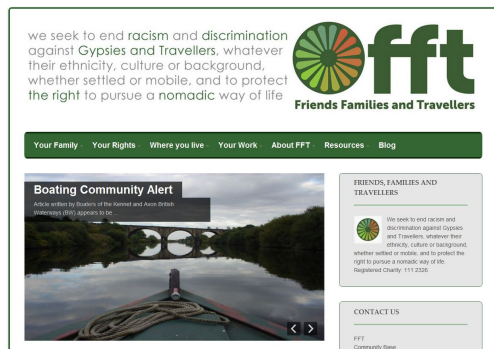
The website has also been able to utilise social media to increase the reach and influence of FFT within the Travelling community. FFT now has a Facebook page, which has 530 people (March 2011) following the updates. This has enabled new stories to quickly disseminate amongst supporters.

we seek to end racism and discrimination against Gypsies and Travellers, whatever their ethnicity, culture or background, whether settled or mobile, and to protect the right to pursue a nomadic way of life



The website has an interactive map of Gypsy Traveller services throughout England. Clients and supporters can find service providers based on location or service type. The location of the service is shown on a Google map. The aim of the map is to make Gypsy Traveller services more accessible to the Travelling Community, whilst also taking the pressure off the office to deal with such enquiries.

FFT has also been able to use the new website to enhance their work with grassroots organisations. For example, FFT has been working with the Boaters community. This work has led to Boaters community pages, links and campaigns being included in www.gypsy-traveller.org.



Tackling Race Inequalities Fund

Continuation...

2. Civic Participation

Civic Participation strand was a two tier process. At the basic level, civic participation promoted electoral registration by visiting Gypsy Traveller sites and signing up the Travelling community to vote. The second tier was a more strategic approach: working with the local authorities in the South East to become proactive in developing innovative schemes and mechanisms for engagement with Gypsy Traveller communities.

By the end of the project, our workers in the South East, South West and the East of England secured around 500 additional registrations.

FFT also created a partnership Horsham District Council as a pilot. FFT formed a working group with Horsham District Council made up of Councillors, officers, four volunteers from the Travelling community and our Community Engagement Worker. FFT delivered cultural awareness training to 25 participants and the working group has drawn up a detailed action plan with a range of initiatives aimed at engaging Gypsies and Travellers within local democratic processes. These initiatives include setting up a work shadowing experience for a young local Gypsy with a Councillor.

3. Conflict Resolution

We have been working with Mediation Services and Crime Reduction Partnerships to improve Gypsy and Traveller access to conflict resolution mechanisms. We had a positive response to our approaches to mediation agencies and local authority members and officers in the SE, and delivered a successful programme of cultural awareness training. Follow up work has also been developed in many areas including Kent and Hastings & Rother for organisations to outreach to local Gypsies and Travellers. However, we recognised that it will be difficult to network and

Tackling Race Inequalities Fund

Continuation...

share information on work with mediation agencies now their specialised national body has closed.



Kenny and Margaret delivering training to Southampton Mediation.

Good Practice

To round off the year we held a large training seminar to share good practice around Tackling Race Inequalities with statutory services. The event was very successful and attended by over 70 delegates from 40 different agencies in SE England. The work of Horsham District Council in partnership with FFT received particularly good feedback from delegates.

Sarah Mann
Training and Capacity Building Manager

Health and Social Care

This has been a very busy year at FFT as well as the day job, we have been navigating our way through the changes and reform within the NHS. There have been many public consultations to do with the proposed changes. The team have worked tirelessly to promote the needs of Gypsies and Travellers at every opportunity and are linked in with many National initiatives and partner organisations in order to ensure that in future Gypsies and Travellers will have their health needs met. This is an uphill struggle and requires on-going provision and support at the grassroots as well as robust and inclusive policy changes. The experience that we have gained over the years of working with the Travelling community has taught us a great deal about what is needed. To echo a cry from patients and public all over the country. *'Nothing about us, without us!'*

The original Sussex Traveller Health Project started in 2003, was designed from its offset to be fully inclusive. The project aimed to engage Gypsy and Traveller women to identify their own health needs and then to support and work with these women, to address some of the issues that they had chosen as their priorities. We have built on the experience of this project to develop a new approach towards helping travelling families to overcome the barriers they face in accessing health and social care services that most of us take for granted. It is through our outreach work that we have been able to engage with some individuals and families who have largely been 'invisible' to the services that should be there to help and support them.

Our team works to bridge those people into services and support them during this process. As a result of our outreach work we are able to identify the many barriers that people face in accessing services: These can include a fear of discrimination; difficulties in accessing primary health care services; poor access to preventative information and services; bureaucratic systems which do not allow for a nomadic existence, whether that be chosen or enforced through

Health and Social Care

Continuation...

frequent evictions; institutional racism and a lack of ethnic monitoring which makes it difficult to prove the "need" for culturally sensitive and appropriate services. The extent of marginalization has led to chronic social exclusion, and to greater health inequalities, a recent literature review for the Equality and Human Rights Commission showed that the health inequalities experienced by Gypsies and Travellers appears to be widening rather than narrowing.

The 2004, "Health Status of Travellers in England report" by Sheffield University accepted that life expectancy was between 10 and 12 years less than the settled population. It has now been accepted by the Department of Health (DH) that this figure is likely to be nearer 20 years less than the life expectancy for the rest of the population. We know that infant mortality is at least three times higher than the national average and that a Gypsy mother is twenty times more likely to experience the death of a child before they reach eighteen years of age. Research on suicide in Ireland has shown that Travellers are three times more likely to commit suicide; we suspect that it may be higher in England but without sufficient monitoring this is hard to quantify.

We were thrilled to hear that one client is now employed as a health trainer as a result of going through the courses provided by Brighton and Hove City Council.

The FFT health team works to support Gypsies and Travellers in and around Sussex, as well as in parts of the South West and East of England, through a DH funded initiative. We also produce user friendly health and social care information, and have now obtained the RSPH quality mark, the Health Information Standard. We also campaign and lobby for improved health provision for Gypsies and Travellers at a policy level. We use our experience of local work to inform Government departments and Race Equality groups of the issues that we find. FFT has worked with several clients on the National Health Trainers programme. A number of Gypsies and Travellers have been through training modules on health and wellbeing in order that they can disseminate and support their friends and colleagues.

Health and Social Care

Continuation...

Gypsies and Travellers in Local Involvement Networks (LINKs).

This project has been funded by the DH for three years and has involved FFT working with partner agencies and Travelling communities across three regions. FFT either worked with, or facilitated partner organisations, to support Gypsies and Travellers to put together their own Cultural Awareness Training package, which was as much about the process of deciding priorities and setting their own agenda, as well as producing a useful resource for training. FFT then offered LINKs the training package. The training was delivered by Travellers themselves and supported by FFT and partner organisations. It was often the first time that many LINKs members had worked with members of the Travelling community and was an opportunity to ask questions and dispel any myths, and in some cases prejudice. Once people got to know each other it became much easier for Travellers to become involved with the LINKs. In some areas this led to LINKs taking up some of the different issues facing Gypsies and Travellers, such as access to G.Ps and access to Dentistry and Oral Health. This also resulted in a number of reports and recommendations being drafted for dissemination to other LINKs and PCTs.

The project will finish in 2012 but has increased the participation of Gypsies and Travellers in the mechanisms of the NHS. We are hoping to build on this information in order to produce Commissioning Guidelines for Clinical Led Consortia. The challenge for us and other Traveller organisations is to ensure that the Joint Strategic Needs Assessments are fully inclusive and identify the needs of Gypsies and Travellers in each locality. Clinical led Consortia will then need to commission appropriate services for Gypsies and Travellers in the light of this. We will need to ensure that JSNA's meet their Equality Duty and work with partners to improve the health of those members of its population who experience the greatest health inequity.

Health and Social Care

Continuation...

Mental Health and Wellbeing Work

Lisa and Jazka have worked very hard and have continued to take an active part in Local Authority and NHS strategic planning meetings looking at health, community and social inclusion throughout Sussex. They have raised awareness of Gypsies and Travellers at meetings conferences and events by giving presentations, holding stalls and taking part in seminars and workshops and continued to ask difficult questions around social exclusion and service provision.

We produced a research report called '*Fair Access for all? Gypsies and Travellers in Sussex, GP Surgeries and Barriers to healthcare*' in response to the high numbers of Gypsies and Travellers reporting difficulty in registering with GP surgeries throughout Sussex. This report has been strategically distributed to influential decision makers with the NHS in Sussex and came at a time when GPs were being handed over the commissioning of health services.

As a consequence, we were commissioned by the Brighton and Hove Local Involvement Network to provide cultural awareness training for GPs and their staff in Brighton and Hove. We trained 25 GPs and practice staff with excellent feedback. Discussions in the training revealed a conflict between NHS anti-fraud guidelines and the NHS Charter which was preventing people registering without proof of address. We are now following this up with DoH as this prevents homeless Gypsies and Travellers from full access to GPs.

We developed more short guides on working with Gypsies and Travellers for IAPT Practitioners and GPs, as our 2009 guide proved extremely popular with mental health practitioners.

We have also developed 8 wellbeing self-help leaflets for clients on issues including bad nerves, bereavement and sleep problems. These leaflets give easy read information and advice on how to stay healthy and who to talk to when support is



Fair Access for all?

Gypsies and Travellers
in Sussex, GP Surgeries and
Barriers to Primary Healthcare



Photo FFT

Jazka Alterbury
August 2010

Health and Social Care

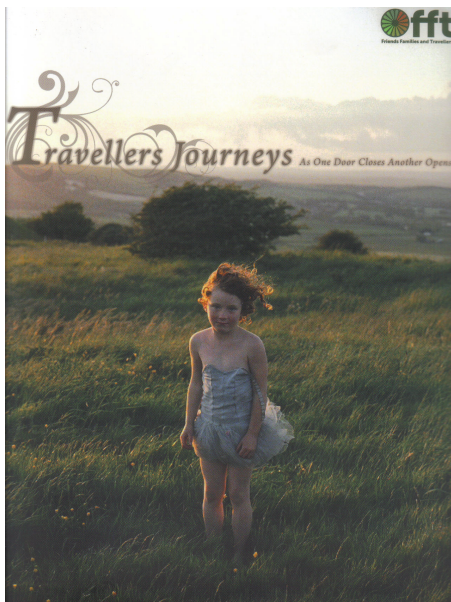
Continuation...

needed. Alongside these leaflets we produced a Wellbeing Audio CD for clients with literacy needs. The Audio CD gives tips and advice from Travellers on how they stay well and what works for them. We have also updated our new website with easy read resource sections for clients and practical information and advice, research reports and guides for practitioners on health and wellbeing relating to Gypsies and Travellers.



FFT also participated in a survey on the wellbeing of people from BME communities in West Sussex. The survey highlighted difficulties that were common to BME communities including Gypsies and Travellers, and made recommendations for health practitioners in the area.

Gemma, has been working to support Gypsies and Travellers across Sussex with mental health and wellbeing issues. This involves working with clients on a one to one basis to support clients struggling with emotional issues. The work involves accessing people into appropriate services, whether that is counselling, assisting with GP appointments or listening to people who may wish to talk about nerves or depression. Many of our clients have experienced a great deal of bereavement and some individuals have benefitted from counselling for this.



Gemma produced a beautiful book with clients and other Gypsies and Travellers called 'Travellers Journey's - As one door closes another opens'. The book is a collection of stories, thoughts and poems written by Gypsies and Travellers about their lives and culture. The book was devised with the idea that there are so many positive aspects to Travelling culture which we can all draw upon. This book is a celebration of Traveller resilience, knowledge and pride.

Zoe Matthews - Strategic Health Manager

Youth Work

Clare has had a very busy and challenging year, particularly with new government policies affecting Traveller families, funding streams and the end of the Youth Development Service in Sussex.

Case Work

Feedback evaluation forms were completed by participants of the Healthy Living Project. It included a question asking why they had enjoyed doing the activities they had liked.

Responses included *'cos it made me feel better in myself and was healthy', 'cos it made me feel better and woz good fun, and I met loads of other people'* and because *'I'd like to learn how to do nails for working'*.

Case work has been consistent with a growing number of young people who have not attended secondary school enquiring about college courses for when they become 16, and additional literacy and numeracy support. This has included both girls and boys and training in forging, animal welfare, child care and fashion design. This year has seen an increase in young Travellers aged 16-17 requesting one to one support independent of being involved in the youth programmes and activities. The Young Person's Coordinator has found an increase in referrals of cases relating to racist abuse, bullying and unfair treatment in public and private practises. Year 2010 has seen an increase in the geographical area covered and engagement of young Travellers with the project particularly in very remote and rural locations.

Activities & Training

The year began with a Healthy Living project with a group of girls who had been awarded a youth opportunity fund. This project had surprising outcomes for the girls who discovered they were not so keen on street dancing but preferred Kick Boxing. Other activities included beauty therapy and painting.

A group of young boys decided that they wanted some football training and to form a team. With the support of the Brighton and Hove Albion and Mid Sussex County Council, 6 week of training resulted in several of the boys joining local teams.

An Awards for All grant allowed us to run a wide range of activities to increase young people's aspirations and confidence, particularly for young people home educated and receiving little self

Youth Work

development input. Activities included:

- A 6 week sewing project, requested by a group of young girls which involved learning to use a sewing machine for the first time.
- A visit to local foundation learning colleges, resulting in 3 girls who have not attended secondary school being determined to go to college to study fashion.
- A road safety project targeted at young men aged 14 upwards.
- An animal and outdoor activity project highlighting employment opportunities by visiting a county fair with college stalls present, college open days, animal rescue centres, working farms and zoos.
- Outdoor pursuits, including lateral skills, team building exercises including raft building and safety in water activities such as swimming, rowing boats and kayaking. Twenty young people, mostly home educated, received AQA accreditations in outdoor pursuits.

Community Cohesion

Community cohesion is a vital component of our young people's work. This year we saw an increase of engagement with New Travellers and ran several team building activity days with Romany Gypsies, Irish Travellers and New Travellers. This enabled young Travellers to learn the similarities and differences between their cultures and to break down negative preconceptions.

Clare also input to children's services proposed review and child poverty assessments to ensure that Traveller young people are included on the proposed agendas for East, West Sussex and Brighton and Hove local authorities. Clare also submitted written evidence to all 3 local authorities including case studies.

Clare Bingham
Young Person's Co-ordinator

Income and Expenditure Account:

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2011

	2011		2010	
	£	£	£	£
<u>INCOME</u>				
Grants	475,005		453,347	
Donations	957		1,211	
Membership	633		527	
Sales of Publications	795		1,150	
Fees and Other Income	21,647		40,697	
Bank Interest	<u>244</u>	<u>499,281</u>	<u>253</u>	<u>497,185</u>
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>				
Project Costs		19,116		27,006
Staff Costs				
Salaries	353,516		295,878	
Employers National Insurance	31,443		27,316	
Travel and Accom.	33,265		30,823	
Training	11,781		14,335	
Volunteer Expenses	5,880		1,821	
Management Com. Expenses	2,082		1,012	
Recruitment	-		2,411	
Other Staff Costs	<u>711</u>	<u>438,678</u>	<u>413</u>	374,009
Property Costs				
Rent	13,945		12,171	
Room Hire	1,880		502	
Equipment (Non capital)	809		710	
Insurance	2,293		2,076	
Cleaning	<u>526</u>	<u>19,453</u>	<u>468</u>	15,927
Office Costs				
Web Design	-		16,141	
Printing and Publicity	5,550		5,849	
Photocopying	683		490	
Stationery	2,072		2,996	
Telephone	9,954		7,456	
Internet	-		30	
Postage	808		800	
Computer Costs	1,592		380	
Subscriptions	140		538	
Refreshments	487		550	
Sundry	332		715	
Depreciation	<u>2,353</u>	<u>23,971</u>	<u>2,771</u>	38,716
Professional				
Accountancy	2,387		1,500	
Consultancy	1,207		2,568	
IT Support	1,989		2,185	
Payroll Expenses	2,543		1,231	
Professional Affiliations	<u>587</u>	<u>8,713</u>	<u>1,796</u>	<u>9,280</u>
		<u>509,931</u>		<u>464,938</u>
<u>EXCESS OF EXPENDITURE OVER INCOME</u>		<u>(10,650)</u>		<u>32,247</u>

These pages (40-41) do not form part of the statutory financial statements.

All amounts relate to continuing activities.

There have been no recognised gains or losses other than the result for the financial year and all surpluses or deficits have been accounted for on an historical cost basis.

The full report and financial statements are available on request from:

FFT,
Community Base,
113 Queens Road,
Brighton, East Sussex, BN1 3XG

FFT's Publications 2010-2011

'Fair Access for all? Gypsies and Travellers in Sussex, GP Surgeries and Barriers to healthcare' Research Report pub. 2010

'Know your rights and responsibilities within the NHS' client advice leaflet 2010 pub. 2010

A collection of 8 wellbeing self help client leaflets pub. 2010

'How to keep your smile' client advice leaflet pub. 2011

'A Collaborative Programme to Improve the Oral Health of the Gypsy and Travelling Communities in Sussex' Research Report 2011

'A short document on working with Gypsies and Travellers for IAPT Practitioners' 2 page working guide 2010

A 2-page document on working with Gypsies and Travellers for General Practitioners pub. 2011

'Food and Mood: how to feel better by eating well' client advice booklet updated and reprinted 2011

With grateful thanks to our funders and partners:

We could not achieve the many projects and services which we deliver without the help of our funders on whom we rely in order to survive as an organisation.

We are especially indebted to –

Communities and Local Government who awarded us a total of £304,500 over two years under its 'Tackling Race Inequalities' programme. This has made a huge difference to the scope and reach of our services.



The Big Lottery who fund our Reaching Communities project aimed at building the capacity of Gypsy and Traveller individuals and communities throughout Sussex.

LOTTERY FUNDED

The Equality and Human Rights Commission who fund our capacity building and community development work in the South East.

Brighton & Hove City NHS who fund our health outreach work in the city.

Brighton and Hove City 
Teaching Primary Care Trust



Lankelly Chase Foundation who fund our Mental Health and Wellbeing work.

The Pfizer Foundation, for funding a mental health project and the subsequent production of a book compiled from materials provided by mental health and wellbeing clients.

The Emigrant Services Department of the Irish Government who fund part of our work on behalf of Irish Travellers.

The Tudor Trust, who provide us with much needed core funding.



BBC Children in Need who fund our work with children and young people.

The Department of Health who fund our health inclusion work in the South East, South West and the East of England.

With grateful thanks to our funders and partners:

Continuation...

Sussex Partnership 
NHS Foundation Trust

Sussex Partnership Trust who funded our Community Development Worker (Mental Health) under a contract won in partnership with Rethink and the Crawley Ethnic Minority Partnership.

The AB Charitable Trust who provided valuable funding towards our casework.

Finally we would like to thank FFT members, partners and colleagues in scores of other organisations who have given us help, encouragement and support over the year and without whom we could not have made nearly as much progress on behalf of the communities that we serve.