



Friends, Families and Travellers

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Special Points of interest:

- GTLRC Spring Conference
  - GTLRC Youth Conference
  - Battle of the Beanfield
  - TAT Grants Programme
  - Pay-as-you-go Road Charging
  - Gypsy and Traveller Tolerance Zones
  - Viv's Spares File
  - Travels with Bat
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Management Committee Meetings:

23th July, London  
3rd September, London

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# Friends, Families and Travellers



## Council of Europe issues report, recommending a statutory duty on councils to provide and facilitate Traveller sites.

The Government will be introducing a new planning circular, which obliges councils to identify land that Travellers can buy and there is a new statutory duty on councils to assess Gypsy and Traveller accommodation needs. However in spite of overwhelming advice and support for a statutory duty to provide and facilitate sites the Government so far has declined to introduce this. The previous statutory duty to provide sites was scrapped by the Conservatives in 1994, this created the present shortage of sites and resulting community tensions.

On the 8th of June, the Council of Europe has issued a report, which recommends a statutory duty on councils to provide and facilitate Traveller sites.

The Council of Europe Human Rights Commissioner, Irish Traveller Movement (ITM) director Martin Collins said: "*The Government is not short of in-depth research, advice or expert opinion: Everyone who has studied this issue can see the solution lies in restoring the duty upon local authorities to meet the housing needs of Gypsies and Travellers by providing or facilitating suitable sites.*"

Andrew Ryder Coordinator of the

G&TLRC said "*Recent months have witnessed unprecedented attacks by the media and politicians on Gypsies and Travellers which have stoked up discrimination against this minority to extreme levels. More sites are needed to reduce community tensions but ironically the current hysteria could be an obstacle to those sites being built, that is why more than ever we need a statutory duty on councils to provide and facilitate sites*".

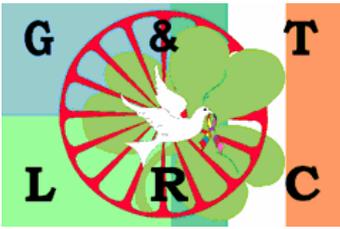
ITM co-chair, Tom Sweeney called for the Deputy Prime Minister to step in and lift the threat hanging over Irish Travellers living at Dale Farm in Essex. "*Evicting Travellers from their own land without offering them any alternative to living on the roadside is no solution to the shortage of site provision*", he said. "*If local authorities need extra resources to break the cycle of racism and forced evictions, they should be given what they need. Dale Farm Travellers should be helped to resolve planning issues with the local council, offered alternative land to develop or provided with site pitches to rent.*"

For information see: [http://press.coe.int/cp/2005/308a\(2005\).htm](http://press.coe.int/cp/2005/308a(2005).htm)

By Andrew Ryder, G&TLRC

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Please note that the information given in this newsletter is not necessarily the view of FFT, unless the author is given, and may not reflect the views of other Gypsy or Traveller organisations or individuals.



## The G&TLRC conference at Birmingham attracted 300 delegates.

The conference was aptly named –“ New Challenges and New Opportunities” as it contained training sessions on the new proposed planning system, the new obligation on councils to identify land Gypsies and Travellers can buy and what this means, and on plans to fund registered social landlords to build and manage new sites.

One of the highlights of the conference was the Youth Conference (see below) which was very well attended. Young activists from Scotland, the North, the Midlands, London and the South came together to share experiences and present cultural performances. It was good to see young people ready and willing to carry on the fight for justice and equality for Gypsies and Travellers.

Chris Johnson of the Travellers' Advice Team expressed relief that Howard's crude electioneering which had included attacks had not paid off. However, the Tories could win the next election and it is therefore important to get the needed new sites built in the next four years and

build a cross party consensus for the need for more sites.

We must not see the hard fought gains of recent years reversed or fail to materialise. On a final note it is therefore pleasing to see Yvette Cooper MP remain as a minister in the ODPM In the past, ministers have been moved on just as they were starting to understand the issues regarding Gypsies and Travellers. Yvette has visited sites and met the G&TLRC committee on a number of occasions, and we believe that she is sincere in her determination to find fair solutions which will create homes for Gypsies and Travellers and end damaging community tensions.

The Coalition has just announced that they planning a second conference in November. Details will be announced on the G&TLRC website in due course:

[www.travellerslaw.org.uk](http://www.travellerslaw.org.uk)

By Andrew Ryder.  
G&TLRC

## The G&TLRC Youth Conference

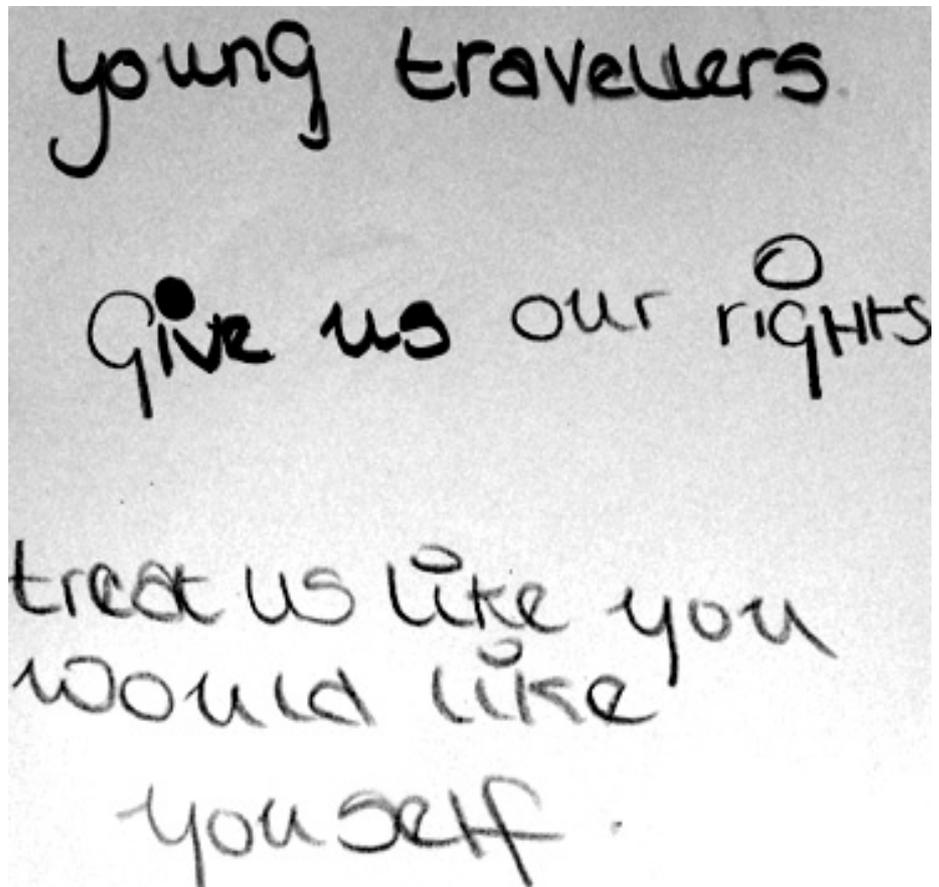


The G&TLRC Youth Conference was a great success with fabulous contributions by Young Gypsy Travellers. There was a full programme of events including workshops by the Children's Society, Save the Children Scotland, London Gypsy and Traveller Unit, Traveller and Gypsy Community Development Project (Glasgow), Hull GATE/ Northern Network, Richard O'Neil and Margaret Stokes.

The Young Gypsy Travellers spoke about how they felt to be Gypsy and Travellers and what they would like to say to politicians and leaders in the face of prejudice in the UK today. Here is an example of some of their work:

## The G&TLRC Youth Conference (cont)

- “We need more sites
- Schools should be aware of our culture. That is the problem I have. One teacher said “All Gypsies and Travellers are dirty and thieves”.
- At the moment, I am living in my Granny and Grandad’s yard. We need more official sites.
- Living on a Green Lane is very peaceful and you get more fresh air than living in a house, and you get closer to nature.
- Need more transit sites, as there is only one transit site in Darlington.
- You can get families who have lived on a site for years and a new family pulls on and makes a mess, all Travellers get blamed. Travellers are either all good or all bad to settled people, they don't see it might be just one family causing trouble.
- We cant get doctors or anything and we get treated differently too. It is not good how people treat us. Police look down on us.



- We need more transport, as I am stuck in the countryside.
- I would like electric and water please”.

These comments were read out by Janie Codona at the main GTLRC conference. The Young People’s art and comments will be made into a pack that will be sent to the leaders of the main political parties and other interested political bodies to represent the views of Young Gypsy Travellers.



The organisers, Tammy Furey of FFT’s CyberPilot Project and Lucy Russell from Young Women’s Christian Association would like to thank all those who attended and made the event so special. We look forward to the next conference

## Battle of the Beanfield

On June 1<sup>st</sup> 1985, a convoy of over 500 new travellers, peace protestors, green activists and festival goers set off from Savernake Forest in Wiltshire to establish the 12<sup>th</sup> annual free festival at Stonehenge.

They never reached their destination.

Eight miles from the stones they were ambushed, assaulted and arrested with unprecedented brutality by a quasi-military police force of over 1,300 officers drawn from six counties and the MoD. This event has become known as the "Battle of the Beanfield".



As Featured in "The Battle of the Beanfield" (Ed. Andy Worthington)

Kim Sabido, a reporter used to visiting the worlds 'hot spots', did an emotional piece-to-camera for ITN as he described the worst police violence that he had ever seen.

*"What we - the ITN camera crew and myself as a reporter - have seen in the last 30 minutes here in this field has been some of the most brutal police treatment of people that I've witnessed in my entire career as a journalist. The number of people who have been hit by policemen, who have been clubbed whilst holding babies in their arms in coaches around this field, is yet to be counted...There must surely be an enquiry after what has happened today".*

One of the few journalists to ignore police advice and attend the scene was Nick Davies, Home Affairs correspondent for The Observer. He wrote:

*"There was glass breaking, people screaming, black smoke towering out of burning caravans and everywhere there seemed to be people being bashed and flattened and pulled by the hair....men, women and children were led away, shivering, swearing, crying, bleeding, leaving their homes in pieces.....Over the years I had seen all kinds of horrible and frightening things and always managed to grin and write it. But as I left the Beanfield, for the first time, I felt sick enough to cry."*



A photo from 1989 Copyright Adrian Arbib. As Featured in "The Battle of the Beanfield" (Ed. Andy Worthington)

One unusual eye-witness to the Beanfield nightmare was the Earl of Cardigan, secretary of the Marlborough Conservative Association and manager of Savernake Forest (on behalf of his father the Marquis of Ailesbury). He had travelled along with the convoy on his motorbike accompanied by fellow Conservative Association member John Moore. As the Travellers had left from land managed by Cardigan, the pair thought "it would be interesting to follow the events personally". They witnessed what Cardigan described as 'unspeakable' police violence. Cardigan subsequently provided eye-witness testimonies of police behaviour during prosecutions brought against Wiltshire Police.

These included descriptions of a heavily pregnant woman "with a silhouette like a zeppelin" being "clubbed with a truncheon" and riot police showering a woman and child with glass.

## Battle of the Beanfield

*"I had just recently had a baby daughter myself so when I saw babies showered with glass by riot police smashing windows, I thought of my own baby lying in her cradle 25 miles away in Marlborough"* recalls Cardigan.

Cardigan's testimony held unusual sway, presenting unforeseen difficulties for those seeking to cover up and re-interpret the events at the Beanfield.

Four hundred and twenty people were arrested - the largest mass arrest of civilians for hundreds of years - and taken to holding cells throughout the south of England. Travellers homes were systematically looted, smashed and burnt. Seven dogs were destroyed by the RSPCA.

One woman who drove a young girl back to her bus said: *'Everything inside the bus was broken: her guitar and her camera were smashed, the posters had been torn off the wall, there was food and clothes all piled up together in the middle of the floor. Even the yoghurts had been stabbed and spilled everything.'* Crying, she said *"This is my home; they've smashed my home."*

More information and background on Battle of the Beanfield go to:

[http://tash.gn.apc.org/sh\\_bean.htm](http://tash.gn.apc.org/sh_bean.htm)

and

<http://www.schnews.org.uk/archive/news25.htm>



As Featured in "The Battle of the Beanfield" (Ed. Andy Worthington)

### **"The Battle of the Beanfield", edited by Andy Worthington**

"The Battle of the Beanfield", edited by Andy Worthington, is the combined effort of a large number of people who feel passionately that only through reaching an understanding of what actually occurred before, during and after the events at Beanfield, can a proper 'closure' of the event take place for those involved and the many people who have been in some way touched by those events.

Fourteen chapters feature extracts from the police radio log and in-depth interviews with a range of people who were there on the day – including Travellers, journalists Nick Davis and Kim Sabido, the Earl of Cardigan and Deputy Chief Constable Ian Redhead – as well as Lord Gifford QC, who represented 24 of the Travellers at the Beanfield trial in 1991.

The book is priced £12.95 plus £2.00 P+P in the UK  
Cheques payable to: Enabler Publications

Enabler Publications,  
16 Bitton Avenue,  
Teignmouth, Devon  
TQ14 8HD

Tel. 01626 773145  
Email: [adearling@aol.com](mailto:adearling@aol.com)

## Representing Irish Travellers in the UK — Pavee, Advice, Assist and Direction (P.A.A.D)

P.A.A.D, as a constituted Traveller lead organisation, campaigns and lobbies for equality in human and civil rights issues such as health care, education, welfare rights, employment and housing. As representatives of Irish Travellers Nation-Wide P.A.A.D operates an information and advice and support system for Travellers when facing lifestyle issues or when dealing with public services organisa-

tions.

P.A.A.D is self-funded  
For donation or membership details please ring 07791327842

E-mail [phien@beeb.net](mailto:phien@beeb.net)

## On the road to remembering the South East's Gypsies and Travellers

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*"...there is a phenomenal need and desire within the Gypsy and Traveller community to share and preserve its history..."*

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Research has been published which challenges museums, libraries and archives across the South East of England to actively celebrate and include one of Britain's most misunderstood and forgotten cultures in their work. The report "Private Past, Public Future", reveals that Gypsies and Travellers, thought to represent the single largest ethnic minority in the counties of Kent, Surrey and Hampshire, believe that their culture has been largely ignored and forgotten by heritage bodies across the region. The community also feels that heritage bodies have a key role to play in actively promoting racial harmony and community cohesion at a time when anti-Gypsy and Traveller hostility is on the rise.

The report is first result from a 3-year project, funded by the South East Museum Library and Archive Council and the European Union, called "Roads to Your Past" which aims to increase the visibility of Gypsies and Traveller culture and history in museums, libraries and archives. Over 100 Gypsies and Travellers from across the South East counties were interviewed about their

experiences of heritage work. Many said that museums, libraries and archives had completely ignored their culture. Among its many findings, the research reveals that:

- Only 2% of Gypsies and Travellers thought museums, libraries and archives had done enough to celebrate and represent the history and culture of Gypsies and Travellers in the past.
- 100% thought museums, libraries and archives should do more to celebrate the history and culture of Gypsies and Travellers in the future.

Pat Reynolds, Surrey Museums Development Officer of the Surrey Museums Consultative Committee says:

*"This research has demonstrated that there is a phenomenal need and desire within the Gypsy and Traveller community to share and preserve its history. Unfortunately, there is also a quite uniform experience of being ignored by museums, libraries and archives."*

## On the road to remembering the South East's Gypsies and Travellers (cont)

*"But Gypsy history is not a uniquely Gypsy experience. The settled population also need an opportunity to learn about and interpret Gypsy history, because it is also an important part of British history. Gypsies and Travellers have operated businesses, fought in wars and represented this country in sports and the arts. At times, British Gypsy history may have been a painful and controversial story, but it is still a part of our national narrative."*

The project's researcher, Romani Journalist Jake Bowers, has spent the last 3 months on the road interviewing Gypsies and Travellers and identifying collections currently held about their culture within the region's museums, libraries and archives. His recommendations to museum, library and archive staff include:

- Conducting a cultural audit to identify and categorize Gypsy and Traveller material already held.
- Creating a permanent travelling exhibition about Gypsy and Traveller culture
- Establishing a Gypsy and Traveller Cultural Heritage Centre in the South East of England

Bowers says: *"The long term social exclusion of Gypsies and Travellers from mainstream British society is mirrored in the work of public heritage bodies. This has forced the community to preserve its own heritage, which it has done with incredible tenacity."*

*"But as the community becomes more sedentary, educated and integrated, the cultural traditions are under threat and the preservation of heritage is also threatened. Now is the time for museums, libraries and archives to start exploring an vibrant and hidden culture in its midst that has been a crucial part of British society for 500 years."*

At the research's official launch at the Olah Roma Gypsy Festival, held at the Weald and Downland Open Air Museum near Chichester, Gypsies, Travellers and heritage professionals gathered to act on the reports findings.

The festival was a celebration of traditional Gypsy culture and centres around two spectacular evening concerts by leading European Gypsy performers Vera Bila and Romano Drom.

The Museum also focused on other aspects of Gypsy culture including exhibits, demonstrations and activities around the site. On both Saturday and Sunday, the Brazil family from the South East Romani Museum were on-site with their Jowett wagon, demonstrating woodcarving, the building of Gypsy bender tents using hazel and straw from the Museum site, and telling stories of Gypsy cultural heritage with a strong regional emphasis.

The report "Private past, public future" is available online at:

[www.surreycc.gov.uk/roadstoyourpast](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/roadstoyourpast)

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*"...At times, British Gypsy history may have been a painful and controversial story, but it is still a part of our national narrative..."*

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# Traveller's Aid Trust Grants Programmes

## Comic Relief Small Grants Programme:

Comic Relief aims to provide grants of up to £3000 to small Gypsy and Traveller groups to help with setting them up and running them.

### Who can apply?

Any work we fund must be charitable. However, you do not have to be a registered charity, as long as the work you are planning to do has charitable aims and you have a constitution and a management committee. We give grants to groups throughout the UK.

This programme is aimed at small groups, so your annual income should be less than £50,000 per year.

We will give support to groups that are run by Gypsies and Travellers themselves as much as possible. Priority will be given to Traveller led projects, but we will consider other projects if they can show substantial involvement of and consultation with Gypsies and Travellers and that they are working towards the project becoming led by Travellers.

### What will we fund?

You can apply for core running costs including office and administration expenses, such as telephone, rent, insurance and heat and light; stationery and printing; sessional worker and volunteer costs; travel costs; computer and equipment costs; consultancy costs; and other costs of running your project. Your group may be doing any of the following or something similar:

- Providing a link between Gypsies and Travellers and local planners and service providers to get Travellers' needs on the agenda;
- Working with local residents to break down barriers;
- Providing advice and information, advocacy and practical help for indi-

vidual Gypsies and Travellers and families so they can obtain basic rights and services;

- Training such as in literacy and numeracy; youth projects to engage and empower young Gypsies and Travellers; or health initiatives around improving health and helping Gypsy and Travellers get access to health care.

### What we don't fund

We do not fund the following:

- Academic research
- General appeals
- Schools, colleges and hospitals
- Individuals
- Trips abroad, holidays and outings
- Services run by statutory or public authorities
- Minibuses

Activities or services which any statutory agency, for example, a government department, a local council or health authority, has a legal duty to provide.

### How to apply

We consider applications for this programme at any time, while funds allow, and there are no deadlines. All you need to do is fill in the form on the TAT website: [www.travellersaidtrust.org/grants.html#comirelief](http://www.travellersaidtrust.org/grants.html#comirelief) and send it to us. Make sure you send us everything on the checklist, or explain why if you do not have any of them. We should give you a decision within three months of your application.

You can telephone the UK Grants Team at Comic Relief if you have any questions about applying for funding.  
Tel: 020 7820 5555

Send your application to:  
Comic Relief, 5th Floor, 89 Albert Embankment, London, SE1 7TP

For info visit: [www.travellersaidtrust.org/grants.html#comirelief](http://www.travellersaidtrust.org/grants.html#comirelief)

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*Comic Relief aims to provide grants of up to £3000 to small Gypsy and Traveller groups to help with setting them up and running them.*

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# Traveller's Aid Trust Grants Programmes

## The Violet Clegg Fund - Small Grants for Travellers to Overcome Hardship or Benefit Communities

This scheme, previously run under the name of the Small Grants Programme for Travellers, has recently been revised and new criteria have been introduced so please be sure to read through the revised guidelines before applying.

The Violet Clegg Fund awards grants of up to £250 for applications that fall within two main categories. Grants can either be for a specific purpose/item or meeting the overall costs of such a purpose or item.

**Category 1 grants** are those that are of benefit to Gypsies and Travellers who are experiencing exceptional hardship. By exceptional hardship we mean situations that go beyond the general hardships experienced by the Gypsy and Traveller community on a day to day basis. Examples of this might be such things as repair costs for damage or loss caused by fire, relief for

individuals suffering from severe ill health or disability, children with special needs, or families experiencing domestic violence.

**Category 2 grants** are those that are of benefit to a community. Examples of this might be exchange trips between residents on different sites, improving or providing safe play areas or equipment or other activities that are of general benefit to members of a community.

This is a rolling grants programme so there is no deadline and applications can be sent in at any time.

For more details, and to download application forms, please visit:

[www.travellersaidtrust.org/grants.html#smallgrants](http://www.travellersaidtrust.org/grants.html#smallgrants)

Or contact TAT: Phone 01269 870 621;

or write to: P.O Box 16, Llangyndeyrn, Kidwelly, Wales, SA17 5YT

## Pay-as-you-go Road Charging

The Government announced in June that Pay-as-you-go road charging could be trialled within 5 years in the UK. If it is a success a nationwide scheme could be in place as early as 2015.

The plans include fitting all cars with Satellite Tracking devices that would record the mileage of every driver's journey and location in the UK. The government would then charge the driver according to their mileage, what roads were used and at what time. Prices would start from 2p for rural roads at off-peak times and up to £1.34 a mile on busy motorways such as the M25 at rush hour. Current charges of fuel taxes and road taxes will be reduced or even scrapped.

There are concerns regarding the Government's use of the driver's locational data

generated by the system. Would this data be made available to the police and local authorities, giving the whereabouts of all vehicles at all times? If so, surely this is a civil liberties matter and will adversely affect Traveller's rights and the ability to freely travel.

"Governments will upset at their peril society's wish to do what it wants to do and that is to move around," says Professor Garel Rhys, director of the Centre for Automotive Industry Research at Cardiff University's business school.

Terence Bendixson, secretary of the Independent Transport Commission (ITC) at the University of Southampton, says there "could be a poll tax revolt if Alistair Darling fails to deal with these issues in ways that drivers see as fair and reasonable".

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## Gypsy and Traveller Tolerance Zones



*The following statement is for the consideration of tolerance zones as in relation to **transient sites**, and is based on the circumstances of Travellers passing through and living on the roads and lands of Kingston upon Hull and other cities. This may not be appropriate for all areas of the U.K. and has no reflection on the creation of permanent council, private landlord or Traveller owned sites.*

### **The benefits of Tolerance Zones.**

There are several reasons why tolerance zones would be an appropriate measure in the Kingston upon Hull area and other cities in relation to transient sites.

Hull like many cities has a high population of people within its settled communities, and the councils have a task of keeping its residents content. The thought of permanently situated transient sites to the average member of the settled community is unacceptable, especially if they think it is going to be at the bottom of their garden. The fact that different families will be coming and going means that there will be a constant stream of new faces in one localised area, which understandably could create unsettled feelings among the members of the local settled communities. I believe transient sites in this sort of setting would not be totally successful.

Most agency and council workers, working with the Travelling communities, generally state that transient sites are not successful on an accommodation and social level, as they can cause unrest within the settled communities, and severe social and family problems for Gypsies and Travellers staying on such sites. Highly mobile Gypsies and Travellers generally stay together in groups and families. Searching for short term stopping places and keeping the family group

together is important to the cultural needs of Gypsies and Travellers. Because transient sites would normally have a waiting list situation and a short number of available plots, families will be split up if they have to use such stopping places. Section 62A paragraph 1 subsection D of the 'Criminal Justice & Public Order Act 1994' would force this situation.

Many Travelling families living on the road set up short term unauthorised encampments. Some unauthorised encampments go unnoticed as they have no effect on the settled communities (whether or not out of sight) and are therefore tolerated by the general public, but yet face eviction on discovery. It seems that the only people who benefit from this situation are the bailiff and repossession firms, when thousands of pounds are spent on evictions.

The majority of highly mobile families don't want to permanently stay on unauthorised encampments, just a period of time to pull back together family resources, in respect of health, education and logistics is the usual aspiration.

As with most cities there is always unused land in the Kingston upon Hull area, land that has not been used for years and not likely to be used for years to come. Closed down businesses, demolished areas, empty land and compounds, most being unused industrial land. Setting up a strategy and approaching the appropriate council departments and property owners in respect of unused land, and land to let, for the purpose of temporary stopping places may be a step forward towards compromise with both the settled and travelling communities.

**The Office of the Deputy Prime Minister Guidance paragraph 4.4 states:** - All local authorities experiencing unauthorised

# Gypsy and Traveller Tolerance Zones

encampments should provide either transit sites or stopping places to cater for Gypsies and Travellers moving within or passing through their area. This might be done on a collaborative basis between neighbouring authorities. Some provision could be made by private individuals at no cost to local authority.

Hopefully the quote in the **Kingston upon Hull City Councils A-Z Guide to Council Services** page 30 Land and Premises, will give regard to this situation: 'We provide a wide range of premises and land to let, which is suitable for all uses, from large development sites to premises for retail and office use in and around the city'.

A network of portable resources such as portable lavatories, water bowsers, and waste skips on standby for such stopping places would also help ease any situations created by the lack of resources, hopefully keeping the peace between travelling families and the settled communities. This would obviously have to be financed. Charity funding and donations, cultural resource, local and central government funding and contributions from the Gypsy and Traveller community are some of the avenues that could be considered. It is unfortunate that at the moment councils are spending large amounts of money on site protection, for example, the mounding and trenching of entrances to grounds, when a more social inclusive strategy could be approached.

**The Office of the Deputy Prime Minister Guidance paragraph 4.9 states:-** Site protection and continuing development of open land can have the effect of forcing Gypsies and Travellers to camp in prominent and still more unsuitable places including farmland and other private land, prompting complaints from the land owner. Site protection must only be considered alongside the creation of permanent sites, transit sites and stopping places to ensure that there are places for Gypsies and Travellers to stop without causing disruption.

Department of Environment Circular No.18/94 urges local authorities to adopt a policy of toleration towards unauthorised Gypsy encampments where they 'are not causing a level of nuisance which cannot be effectively controlled'.

The practice of tolerating such encampments will hopefully bridge the gaps between the appropriate agencies and the hard to reach travelling groups aiding the ongoing social inclusion program for this indigenous culture, therefore enabling the council to put into practice their own **Tolerance policy**\* on Gypsies and Travellers and at the same time keep the settled community at ease.

**\*The Kingston upon Hull City Council Tolerance policy on Gypsies and Travellers recommends:** That the attached policies relating to Gypsies and Travellers both resident on the City Council's Caravan Sites (paragraph 4) and those within the City boundary maintaining a transient lifestyle (paragraph 6) be approved and adopted.

**I also urge the council to take into consideration the following articles and reports:**

**European Convention of Human Rights:**

**ARTICLE 8 of SECTION 1.** Right to respect for private and family life.

1. Everyone has the right to respect for his private and family life, his home and his correspondence.

**ARTICLE 2 of PROTOCOL 4.**

Everyone lawfully within the territory of a State shall, within that territory, have the right to liberty of movement and freedom to choose his residence.

**ARTICLE 3 of SECTION 1:**

No one shall be subjected to torture or to inhuman or **degrading treatment** or punishment.

**Education and Health:**

**The 2003 OFSTED report on provisions**

## Gypsy and Traveller Tolerance Zones

**and support for Traveller Pupils, states at Para 15:-** The absence of a corporate policy on dealing with unauthorised or temporary encampments hindered the efforts of the Traveller Education Service. Different agencies within the authority acted in a way that was at odds with their own council policies on inclusions and race equality.

**The 'Main Findings' of the same report, states:-** Many authorities have clear statements about the inclusion of all pupils in education. However, in too many authorities, the ways in which they deal with unauthorised encampments contradict the principles set out in the public statements on inclusion, educational entitlement and race equality. Such contradictions undermine relationships and inhibit the effectiveness of the Traveller Education Services and other agencies.

**The Equality of Opportunity Committee of the National Assembly for Wales, Review of service provisions for Gypsies and Travellers 2003, para 12.21-12.22 states:-**

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*“Michael Howard’s instinct – that “ugly impulse” – is to jump on the bandwagon. He taps into bigotry and feeds peoples’ fear of the unknown”*

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## Sun Newspaper’s ‘Stamp on the Camps’ Campaign

April’s election campaign witnessed some of the most distasteful and inaccurate media reporting of recent times led by the Sun’s ‘Stamp on the Camps’ campaign on Gypsies and Travellers. The Conservatives took out a number of adverts in the Sunday papers in which Michael Howard accused Gypsies and Travellers of bending the rules and there being “One rule for Travellers and another for everyone else”.

Kevin McNamara, in his response to the campaign stated:

*“When the Sun newspaper launches a crusade to “stamp on the camps”, politi-*

Service providers in the education and health fields both identified accommodation issues as one of the barriers to successful service provision in their area:... Evictions from unauthorised sites can lead to lack of continuity in education and discourage parents from seeking to register their children in the first place.

***In the interest of Human Rights, Health, Welfare, Education, Social Inclusion, Racial and Ethnic policies, I hope that the above statement is taken into great consideration.***

John Mercer, Gypsy Advocate.  
Hull Gypsy And Traveller Exchange.

In association with;  
The Hull Gypsy and Traveller Exchange;  
The Northern Network of Gypsies, Travellers, Show People and Circus People by blood;  
The East Anglia Gypsy Council;  
The Gypsy and Traveller Law Reform Coalition.

*cians ... have a responsibility to promote good relations between Travellers and settled communities.*

*Michael Howard’s instinct – that “ugly impulse” – is to jump on the bandwagon. He taps into bigotry and feeds peoples’ fear of the unknown”*

Following hundreds of complaints made to the police about the Sun’s recent spate of offensive articles about Gypsies and Travellers, the police have compiled a file under an Incitement to Racial Hatred Charge, and this is now with the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS). The CPS’s decision is expected imminently.

## Sussex Traveller Women's Health Project

The Sussex Traveller Women's Health Project has produced an informative and decorative textile banner to communicate Traveller health issues to a wider audience. This project has been funded through Say Aah, an initiative from Brighton and Hove council to promote Arts in Health.

The Sussex Traveller Women's health project has been set up to address the health issues faced by Travellers. Traveller communities often have poor health and the prejudice they receive makes them one of the most discriminated minority groups in the country. On top of this many are unaware of health entitlements and find it hard to locate an understanding GP. Through a series of activities, workshops and talks the Traveller women's health group aims to increase health awareness amongst Travellers and break down some of the barriers between their communities and health care.

Artist Nancy Evans has facilitated a series of textile printing workshops with Women to produce an informative and decorative textile banner.

The sessions acted as a forum for discussion about Traveller health issues and concerns and resulted in each participant creating their own individual panel based on the health issues faced by Traveller communities.



These panels were then sewn together creating a collaborative banner giving the woman a voice and symbolising the growth and participation of the project.

The completed banner will be used as a visual aid when the group are presenting themselves, improving awareness of Traveller issues and in turn decreasing misconceptions and discrimination.

For more details email the health project:  
[heal.fft@communitybase.org](mailto:heal.fft@communitybase.org)

## Sylvia Dunn battles for Michael Howard's seat on a pro-Gypsy platform

Sylvia Dunne stood as a parliamentary candidate in the general election against Michael Howard at Folkstone. After a very late start, Sylvia and her team, notably Joe and Bridie Jones, managed to get the required number of nominations from the public and were able to mount a campaign that was designed to highlight Howard's racist campaign against Gypsies and Travellers. Sylvia issued the following rebuttal of Howard's advertisement in the press:

\* \* \* \* \*

May I just address why Michael Howard's advert is bigoted in a line by line way? Howard's original advertisement line is in italics.

1) *"The same rules should apply to everyone"*

- they already do - no special rules apply to Gypsies, other than those that he himself brought in as Home Secretary in 1994, the so called "Circular 1/94".

2) *"I don't believe in special rules for special interest groups"*

Then let him as a Jewish person, (for just one example) call for abandonment of the special rules that apply to Kosher slaughtering of animals, that some claim is cruel.

3) *"We are all British, we are one nation"*

- Too right!, so let him force councils to stop discriminating against Gypsies who face a 93% refusal rate in conventional planning applications, whereas the settled community refusal stands at only 17%. Applicants who are Gypsies have to reveal intimate details of their health problems and what should be

confidential financial matters, in open public sessions.

4) *"Too many people today seem to think they don't have to play by the same rules - and they're using human rights to get away with doing the wrong thing"*.

If a minority is being abused by the system (see 3) above) or by hysteria whipped up by the gutter press, then why should they NOT have any redress in the only process currently open to them?

5) *"If you want to build a new home YOU have to get planning permission first, but if you are a Traveller you can bend planning law - building where you like thanks to the human rights act"*.

Retrospective planning apps. ARE within the rules, and are far more extensively used by the settled community than by Travellers. These applications STILL HAVE TO STAND THE TEST OF DUE PROCESS!

6) *"It's not fair that there's one rule for Travellers and another for everyone else"*

EXACTLY so treat us as equals and as citizens, that's all we ask. Clamp down on the hysterical racist frenzy coming out of the tabloids.

\* \* \* \* \*

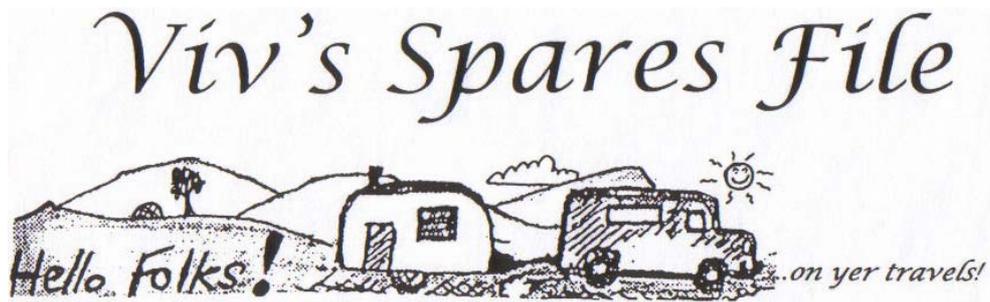
Unfortunately, Sylvia did not win the seat, but may we offer many congratulations and good wishes.

By Andrew Ryder, G&TLRC

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*"...so treat us as equals and as citizens, that's all we ask. Clamp down on the hysterical racist frenzy coming out of the tabloids..."*

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Hello Folks!

Summertime.....and the living is ..... easy? Here's hoping yours is, and that 'your wheels' turn smoothly the whole summer through!

\* \* \* \* \*

Bedford spares from Vauxhall Heritage Services, Albert House, High Street, Princes End, Tipton, W. Midlands, DY4 9HG. Phone 0121 522 6681. Fax. 0121 522 5521. They also hold certain pattern parts.

Exhaust systems made to order for any vehicle – stainless or mild steel. Boat Fabrication, stainless steel hand rails, safety rails. 01239 614668. Mobile 07866 407038 (S.Wales).

Teifi Tuning – Fuel injection, elec, ignition specialist, auto elec fault finding and repair. 01239 810036 (S.Wales)

Workshop manual specialists. Large stock of original manuals, handbooks, part books, sold and bought. Margaret Motors. 01603 407747, Norwich

Manuals for cars, vans, light commercials.  
[www.manualsforcars.co.uk](http://www.manualsforcars.co.uk). Tel. 01322 663972.

Viv (of Spares File) still wanting to sell 1979 Bedford Glendale motorhome for restoration. Roof leak. On sorn. Rare plastic body. 2.3 petrol. Make good gas conversion. 6 Berth. Will part X for Diesel Minibus – for the Spares File base – 10 years old in good condition – plus cash adjustment.

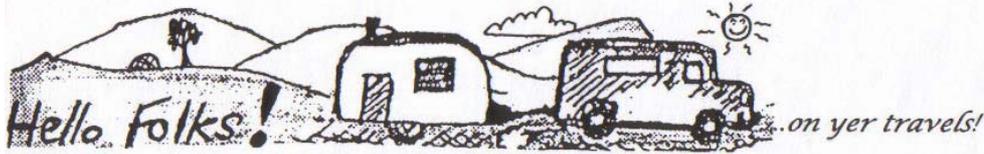
Lion Generators delivered direct to your door. 08456 448848  
[www.lionsun.co.uk](http://www.lionsun.co.uk)  
0.8 and 2kw Petrol - £99.99 + £249.99  
2.5kw Petrol - £299.99 Diesel £474.99  
3.5kw Petrol - £399.99 Diesel £549.99  
4.5kw Petrol - £499.99 Diesel £629.99  
6kw Petrol - £599.99  
180a Welder Generator £999.99

## Alternative Energies in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Sundance Renewables – “Biodiesel Pioneers”.

A workers co-op in South Wales has set up the first community based biodiesel production plant in the UK: “We collect used veg. oil to process at our small chemical plant. We have all the necessary permits and licences to collect waste cooking oil and operate a transesterification (Phew! – Viv) plant. We have also achieved European Quality Standard for Biodiesel – EN 14214. We can supply in 20 or 25 Litre containers, 205 litre drums and 1,000 litre carriers. We also have a pump service at our premises. Biodiesel is not cheap and we pay 27.1p to HM Customs per every litre produced. We sell biodiesel at 89.3p per litre incl. VAT”. ‘Biodiesel – No wars required’ – Contact Jan 01269 842401.

Energy is changing, evolving....speeding up? Every year goes faster than the previous year...does it not? As we integrate – as a solar system – into a new ‘cosmic grand cycle’ – the entire range of vibrational frequencies goes through a transmutation process to a lighter, less dense, frequency. It is an absolutely necessary step in evolutionary processes which are occurring ‘all the time in space’. Consequently, all matter, that is all form, whether a rock, a tree, an animal, bird, insect, and also... yes, a human...which integrates with all energy....is having to adjust at subatomic levels to these frequency changes. Does this sound too far out? Too complicated? Too impossible? Well, science fiction has been popular now, and ever more so to all age groups, since the last century. Today, how many kids and teenagers do you know that don't read Sci-fi comics and

# Viv's Spares File



books (not to mention many adults). And cinema is increasingly concerned with Sci-fi. Darn it.....even good old Doctor Who is still going strong after at least 40 years on T.V! Science Fiction is now becoming science fact.

For the first time scientists and health advisers are taking seriously those people who claim that electricity makes them ill. The UK National Radiological Protection Board (NRPB) is carrying out a review of existing scientific studies into "Electromagnetic Hypersensitivity" (EHS). Two studies into the condition, funded with £750,000 from the Department of Health, and the telecommunications Industry, are ongoing. Sir William Stewart, as Government Advisor on Radiation, has also called for more research. It is indicated that a proportion of the population suffers debilitating health with symptoms such as skin problems, headaches and fatigue. Other scientists say there is no evidence. But in Sweden EHS is recognised and has been since 2000. They say 3.1% of Swedes – 200,000 people – do suffer from this condition. Sir William (to quote Nic Fleming of the Telegraph, U.K, Jan 24<sup>th</sup>, 2005) has recently warned – as head of the NRPB and Health Protection Agency – that parents should limit their children's use of mobile phones. This statement was well publicised in the press. However, his suggestion that a percentage of the population, including children, could have 'extra sensitivity' to exposure from microwave frequencies, or from electromagnetic field frequencies, did not receive widespread press coverage. (In future series I will be mentioning research into microwave/mobile phones, so your comments would be gratefully received readers).

Meanwhile, at Haverford West, Pembrokeshire, South Wales, some police officers have joined a growing number of people to express concern about a tetramast which has been erected on top of Haverford West Police Station. Local residents, parents, teaching staff, and now police officers, are worried about health implications when the mast becomes operational in June. A local County Councillor, Peter Stock, has stated that fears about the detrimental effects of the mast have resulted in many calls to him from the public and police. Seven schools in the area have not been consulted prior to the mast being erected. Cllr Stock is advising people to write to the National Assembly, as it is them, and the Home Office, who have decided upon this microwave system

for the police force. Local residents have accused planning officers of not informing the public about the mast, or consulting them and worse is to come. Apparently, the 3,500 masts operating the Teramast system nationwide emit such powerful frequencies that already the electrics of tens of thousands of cars have been disabled and motorists are having to foot the bill to have their cars' electronics systems reprogrammed! The AA and RAC have had to deal with thousands of call-outs and the RAC are advising drivers not to park near large aerials or masts. (Doris Goddard, Community News, Western Telegram, Weds, 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2005).

If you, as a Traveller, think these matters do not concern you, please think again. Because they already do, and will do increasingly very soon. I have spoken to a lot of Travelling people about the use of mobile phones, etc., and even horse drawn people are using them. All those who do, say they cannot manage without them, but do not generally seem to have made any enquiries into the effects on health.

To conclude this article, a recent meeting held at the Eco Centre, Newport, Pembrokeshire, discussed climate change. An Oceanographer, Steve Hall, who spends his life onboard ships, monitoring, the sea and talking to scientists globally, gave an explicit talk which indicated that in the next fifty years our planet can expect notable changes in temperature, sea levels, wind speeds, rain patterns and more. All of which will necessitate people to become more aware, as well as affecting the way they live. Farmer Heather McCullum from the Institute of Grassland and Environmental Research in Aberystwyth further elaborated by saying how these changes will affect farmers and growers in West Wales. As growing conditions will be affected, farmers and growers also will have to adapt. Growing and selling locally will become a necessity again. The world's grain reserves dropped by 20% last year and China, Russian and India have potential grain crises situations impending. She also mentioned the problems of increasing wind speeds causing more damage to farm buildings.

Earth climate change will affect us all. Please send your comments and even better, your practical suggestions to: Viv's Spares File, for "Alternative Energies in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century".

Viv's Spares  
c/o Llwynceilyn,  
Eglwysrw,  
Crymych,  
Sirpenfro (Pembrokeshire), SA41 3SB.

# Viv's Spares File



## History of Travelling Fairs and Festivals

I attended this year's May 12<sup>th</sup> Horse Fair at Stow-on-the-Wold, and I am happy to report that the fair was bigger and better than ever. There were splendid horses, lots more bowtops and a cheerful friendly family atmosphere which always prevails at his wonderful gathering. 'Stow Horse Fair, May 2005' is a 90 minute video by the Appleby Fair Company and can be obtained by contacting the company at: The Grange, Bedale Road, Leeming Bar, Northallerton, North Yorks, DL7 9AZ. Tel. 01677 423346. Yours truly, Viviana Nomad, is on the video singing with the mandolin. If anyone is interested in

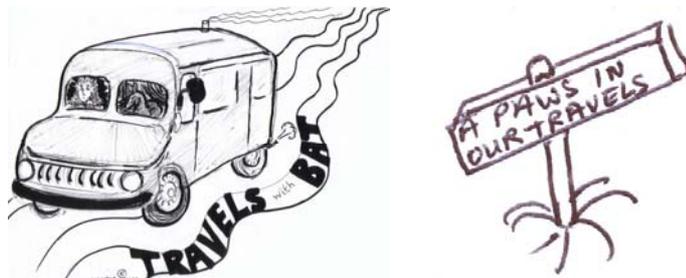
helping me make a tape or video of original Travelling songs, please contact me at the Spare's File address for more details.

### Farewell to the A-Z

Finally folks, on page 19, there is the end of the A-Z of scrapyards. The follow on series "Spares File Scrap" begins next issue. I hope all readers will send me some info.

And now, Travels with Bat....

## Travels wiv Bat A Paws Durin' Chapter 3



"It's time I had my say. It's time you all got to nose me betta. I has been very payshunt wiv her up to now. I have tekin the back seat an' let her wobble on 'bout this 'an that, things wot humans do, or mostly don't do. You may r'memba that we woz at the cloggie dancin' fair. All them humans stompin' about wiv wooden hoofs on. Twirlin' colouredy ribbons I wanted to leap and snap at. Do you really want to nose about those things? Well, now it's time to talk 'bout sumfin' in'trestin', - me.

• \* \* \* \*

Mek no mistake about it – I kin shapeshift. At my most terrible I become the great wrinkly-nosed, snapping crocodile – chopped one. But – always bein' somewot of a droolist – I strives to keep a balance, - jugglin' dark an' light (while humans only juggle balls) – so that in my perfexion an' ballerina-like poise I am Tebby Bear crossed wiv' Great White Shark. These humankind love this, an' it has served me well over t' years, an' her nose t' treat me wiv re-speck, an' she enjoys all my shifty shaperin'. By daytime I may be a hissing serpent dragon, by nightfall a stealthy fox or keen-eared bat. I comes into my own then – honoured wiv my fav'rite name. My





# Travels wiv Bat A Paws Durin' Chapter 3



ears are the Jodrell Banks of Dogland. These vast antennae miss – nuthin!

I used to be known as Bis when I was a pup. Short for Biscuit, y'see. This was my fav'rite food from the time of the loud primeval yelp I made at birth. Within' the fust two years I was famous as "Bin Gannet".



This shafeshiftin' aspeck of me emanated from my being at aged three months when I first went walkabout, leavin' 6 brothers an' sisters still in't pup-nest. Anyhows – I woz off t' heck-splore t' back alleys of Bedminister, Bristle – a big city...full of Duss-

binz. For three free happy daze I woz in bliss, then I woz stopped an' tekin' home. They found me lyin' upside down wiv' a tum like a balloon – beside an empty dussbin. Since then I have allus bin able t' chew bones, rocks, an' tin cans. So they callit me Bin Gannit. This name lasted but a season, - as cheap jokes will – an' then faded into obscurity like a corny ole music hall act. I woz as pearls before swine even then.

Hows-ever, a sumwot brighter spark saw the lite, an' called me Bis – which is short for, 'mongst t'other things – Annubis!

I only use the best kohl arown my ayes – an' tries not t' smudge it.

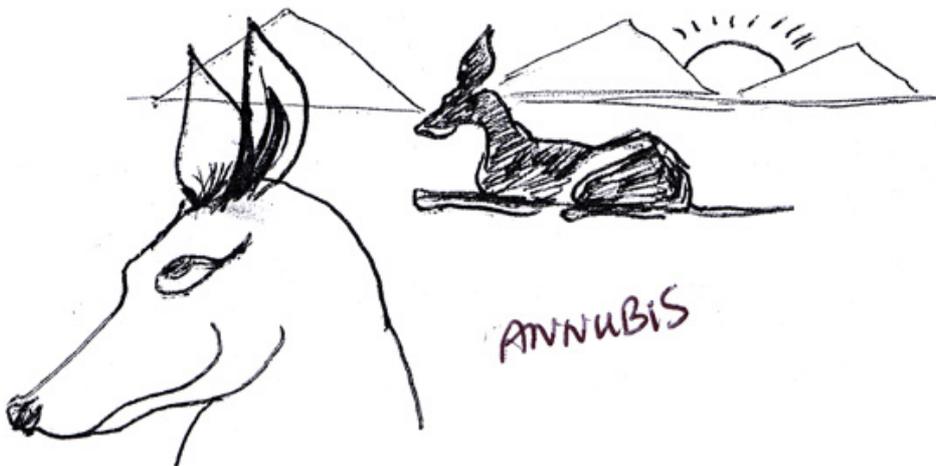


Another ole fav'rite in't shafeshiftin' stakes is "Gazel in a Glade" – a very capitivat' aspeck wot has won me choklit bars an' a starrin' roll in a fillum – as you will dixover if you stays



GAZELLE IN A GLADE

on't yer travels wiv me an' her. So now you nose me a little teeny bit an' I hopes that you has begun t' suss that I am full of history, full of mystery – an' also reddy an' willin' t' take the pisstery should you forgit hoo I am"



ANNUBIS





Noticeboard: For Sale, News, Events  
and more.

---

*FFT welcomes letters and  
articles from all our  
members - so get writing!*

*Need to advertise  
something? Why not put it  
into our newsletter?! -  
we look forward to  
hearing from you*

---

## Noticeboard

### ‘ Promoting & supporting the rights of Gypsies and Travellers in Cornwall ’

Conference  
“Breaking Barriers, Shifting Cultures”

Headland Hotel, Newquay, Cornwall  
29th June 9.00 - 4.00

Opening remarks: The Rt Revd Bill Ind,  
Bishop of Truro

Keynote Speaker: Andrew Ryder, GTLRC

Speakers include:

-Angus Murdoch CLP

-Maggie Smith-Bendall Romani Gypsy  
Liaison Officer

-Acting Inspector Nick Williams Metro-  
politan Police Diversity Directorate

-Jake Bowers Romani Journalist

-Rebecca Holt Health Visitor for Travel-  
ling Families

This conference will bring together practi-  
tioners in the areas of law, planning,  
health, social services, education & racial  
equality who have national recognition to  
address these issues.

Workshops to improve quality of life  
In the afternoon there will be an opportu-  
nity for statutory and non-statutory agen-  
cies who work with the Traveller commu-  
nities in Cornwall to develop best practice  
and share their views.

Conference fee: £50 Free to Travellers  
Crèche facilities can be made available if  
booked in advance

Enquiries to Ginny Harrison-White/  
Michele Lee 01726 77113 gharrison-  
white@cornwall.gov.uk

## FFT News

### FFT’s Annual Report

FFT’s Annual Report is now available!  
Download your colour copy now from the  
FFT website:

[www.gypsy-traveller.org/fft/  
documents.htm](http://www.gypsy-traveller.org/fft/documents.htm)

\* \* \* \* \*

### Good News! : Continued Funding for FFT

Over the last twelve months FFT has been  
facing a serious funding crisis.

We lost the support of several long-term  
funders, and became totally dependent on  
one on-going grant from the Travellers’  
Aid Trust, which was due to end this year.  
We submitted over £600k worth of bids,  
but failed to secure any funding as a result.  
This brought into question the whole finan-  
cial viability of the organisation, and it was

agreed that we needed to adopt a fresh  
approach in order to satisfy potential fun-  
ders.

We contacted Steve Staines, the founder of  
FFT, and he agreed to carry out a Strategic  
Review of the organisation for us. In the  
course of his investigations, Steve con-  
sulted all the FFT staff and directors, a  
number of other professionals who deal  
with Travellers, and a number of funders.  
Steve delivered his report to the directors  
at the end of May.

The directors met to consider his findings,  
and put together a revised funding bid for  
submission to the Travellers’ Aid Trust.

At their meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> June this year, the  
Trust agreed a four stage funding package  
worth £130k, which will provide FFT with  
core funding until June 2008. This will  
ensure job security for our hard working  
staff, and will significantly improve our  
prospects of obtaining additional funding  
in the future.

Thank you Steve, and thank you TAT!

# Contacts

## Local FFT Contacts

### **Brighton:**

Judy Pointing -  
01273 698531

### **Cornwall:**

Sue Burton -  
01736 752036

### **Worcester:**

Sheila Wells, Worcester -  
01905 821 302

### **Lincolnshire:**

Rob Torkington -  
07971 542 108

### **Somerset:**

Tony Thomson -  
07779 310 577

### **Surrey:**

Franqui Wolf, Dorking -  
01306 883254

## Other Gypsy and Traveller Organisations

### **The Traveller Law Reform Coalition,**

Andrew Ryder, Policy Development Worker, Banderway House, 156-162 Kilburn High Road London NW6 4JD 020 7625 2255 email: romani-stan@yahoo.com www.travellerslaw.org.uk

### **Travellers Aid Trust**

PO Box 16 Llangyndeyrn Kidwelly SA17 5YT email: travellersaid-trust@yahoo.co.uk www.travellersaidtrust.org

### **Europe Roma**

0208 802 7496 - 07812 694 347

### **Travellers Consultancy Service**

Freelance consultancy services in all areas affecting the Gypsy & Traveller Community in the UK www.travellerscs.co.uk info@travellerscs.co.uk

### **The Travellers' School Charity**

PO Box 2 Goodwick SA64 0ZQ Tel 07717 055378 Email stigstrunk@aol.com www.travellersschool.plus.com

### **Educational Advice for Travellers**

Fiona Earle, P.O. Box 36, Grantham, Lincs., NG31 6EW

### **The Gypsy Council**

Charlie Smith / Anne Bagehot - 01708 868986

### **The National Association of Gypsy Women**

Rachel, CVS Building, Church Row, Darlington, DL1 5QD. Tel.: 01325 240033 or 07748 670200

### **New Futures Association (NFA)**

c/o 42 Wade Court, Lings, Northampton, NN3 8ND, Tel: 07880 753 713 Email: cal-nfa@hotmail.com or mail@newfutures.fsnet.co.uk

### **National Romany Rights**

Basil Burton 10 Dugdell Close Ferndown Dorset, BH22 8BH Tel. 01202 893228

### **BIAS Irish Traveller Project**

Banderway House, 156-162 Kilburn High Road London NW6 4JD 020 7625 2255

### **National Travellers Action Group**

Cliff & Janie Codona 01767 689736

### **Irish Traveller Movement in Britain**

Banderway House, 156-162 Kilburn High Road London NW6 4JD 020 7625 2255

### **York Traveller Project**

01904 630526

### **London Gypsy and Traveller Unit**

020 8533 2002

### **Scottish Gypsy Traveller Association -**

0131 650 6314

### **Derbyshire Gypsy Liaison Group (DGLG) -**

Ernest Bailey Community Centre, Office 3, New Street, Matlock, DE4 3FE. Tel/Fax 01629 583300

### **Irish Traveller Movement**

4/5 Eustace Street, Dublin 2, Ireland - 00353 1 679 6577

### **Labour Campaign for Travellers Rights**

0113 248 6746

### **Leeds Justice for Traveller - Tommy Collins**

9 Mowbrary Court Seacroft Leeds, LS14 6UN Tel: 0113 264 8658



## **FFT Contacts**

Contacts can also be found at:  
[www.Gypsy-Traveller.org/contacts.htm](http://www.Gypsy-Traveller.org/contacts.htm)

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*FFT contacts, other Gypsy and Traveller organisations, legal assistance, planning advice and more.....*

*For more contacts, please visit*

*[www.Gypsy-Traveller.org/contacts.htm](http://www.Gypsy-Traveller.org/contacts.htm)*

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## Contacts continued.....

**Pavee Point**  
North Great Charles St,  
Dublin 1  
00 353 1 878 0255

**The Children's Society,  
South-West**  
Rachel Grant & Debbie  
Harvey - 92b High Street,  
Mid-Somer Norton, Somers-  
et - 01761 411771

**TravellerSpace**  
c/o Henjy, Canonstown,  
Hayle. Kernow. TR27 6LZ.  
01736 711 378  
traveller-  
space@linuxmail.org

**Cambridge Travellers'  
Advocacy Service**  
7e High Street  
Fenstanton  
Cams, PE28 9Lq  
Tel: 01480 496577  
advocacy@ormiston.org

**Leeds Gypsy and Travel-  
ler Exchange**  
7 Shafton Lane  
Holbeck  
Leeds LS11 9LY  
01132346556  
07974574889

**Cardiff Gypsy Sites  
Group,**  
114 Clifton Street,  
Roath,  
Cardiff, CF24 1LW  
Tel: 029 2021 4411

**Save the Children  
(Scotland)**  
Michelle Lloyd - 0131 527  
8200

**PressWise -**  
Mike Jempson  
0117 941 5866

**Groundswell**  
Elmfield house  
5 Stockwell Mews  
London  
SW9 9GX  
Tel: 020 7737 5500  
fax: 020 7733 1305  
info@groundswell.org.uk  
www.groundswell.org.uk

**National Association of  
Boat Owners**  
01749 677195

**Commission for Racial  
Equality (CRE)**  
020 9390000

**Justice?/Schnews**  
- 01273 685913

**Planning Aid - 01963**  
230045

**Education Otherwise -**  
PO Box 7420  
London  
N9 9SG  
UK  
www.education-  
otherwise.org/  
Email: enquir-  
ies@education-  
otherwise.org

**Land Registry Office -**  
01705 768 820

**The National Small  
Woods Association,**  
3 Perkins Beach Dingle,  
Stiperstones, Shropshire,  
SY5 0PF, - 01743  
792644

**Legal Advice and  
Representation**

**Traveller Advice Team  
(TAT) (Community Law  
Partnership)**  
24hr. mobile: 07768  
316755; Advice Line for  
Travellers: 0845 120 2980;  
and Landline: 0121 685  
8595

**Public Law Project - 020**  
7467 9800

**Squatters Advisory Ser-  
vice**  
020 7359 8814

**Legal Aid Head Office**  
020 7813 1000

**Chapter 7**  
The Potato Store,  
Flaxdrayton Farm, S.  
Petherton, Somerset. Tel:  
01460 249204.  
Email: chap-  
ter7@tlio.demon.co.uk

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*FFT contacts, other Gypsy  
and Traveller  
organisations, legal  
assistance, planning  
advice and more.....  
For more contacts,  
please visit  
www.Gypsy-  
Traveller.org/contacts.htm*

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**Friends, Families & Travellers** was established in response to the passage through Parliament of the 1994 Criminal Justice & Public Order Act.

It has since grown into a nationally recognised voluntary organisation which serves the whole spectrum of the Traveller community, both traditional and new, settled or on the road.

The majority of work promoted by FFT is carried out by an Advice and Information Unit based in Brighton and covers evictions, harassment, planning, employment, benefits, education, health, civil rights, discrimination and legal representation. The Unit is also active in research, monitoring, mediation and policy development at local and national levels.

In 1999, FFT was one of five organisations short listed for the Human Rights Award, part of the United Nations International Day of Human Rights.

FFT became a company (non-profit voluntary organisation) limited by guarantee on the 14th of July 1998, no. 3597515. The company is run by a management committee made up of directors elected by the membership. Management committee meetings are held every six weeks and are open to all members.

**FFT**  
**Community Base**  
**113 Queens Road**  
**Brighton BN1 3XG**

**Tel: 01273 234 777**  
**Fax: 01273 234 778**

**fft@communitybase.org**  
**www.Gypsy-Traveller.org**

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*The Telephone Helpline  
for Travellers: Evictions,  
Site problems and other  
issues on  
0845 120 2980*

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## Telephone Helpline for Travellers

**0845 120 2980**

This advice line is open between

10.00am—1.00pm and 2.00pm—5.00pm, Monday to Friday.

Travellers can speak directly to experienced advisers on questions of eviction, planning matters, issues involving official caravan sites and other matters.

It is run by the Travellers Advice Team at the Community Law Partnership.



The service is funded by the Legal Services Commission.

**If you believe that all members of society should have the right to travel and to stop without constant fear of persecution because of their lifestyle:  
JOIN/MAKE A DONATION TO FRIENDS, FAMILIES AND TRAVELLERS NOW!**

\*\*\*\*\*

I would like to join Friends, Families and Travellers. I understand that this will enable me to vote at the Annual General Meeting, attend Management Committee Meetings and receive copies of the newsletter.

N A M E : \_\_\_\_\_ A D D R E S S : \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ POSTCODE: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ I enclose my subscription:

Waged-£8.00  Unwaged-£3.00  Family Waged-£12.00  Family Unwaged-£5.00  Organisation-£20.00  / or Donation   
I do not wish to join FFT, but please accept a donation towards the work you carry out

Please state if you wish to remain anonymous.