THE MAGAZINE FOR GYPSIES, ROMA & TRAVELLERS

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TRAVELLERS TIMES

THE FIGHT FOR OUR RIGHTS CONTINUES "WE HAVE TO ADAPT TO THEIR WAY OF DOING THINGS, YET THEY NEVER ADAPT TO OURS."

INSIDE: MAGGIE MCPHEE, NEWS, POETRY, JASON DOE, DRIVE 2 SURVIVE, INTERNATIONAL IRISH TRAVELLER DAY, ART, SALLY BARTER, KERENSA SMITH, HEALTH.



Photo

Ann Kobayashi,

standing exactly

where the picture

was taken at the

entrance of Dale

Farm, holds up a

picture taken ten

residents and

allied activists

© Huw Powell

years before of the

peacefully leaving

end of the eviction.

Dale Farm at the

Just over ten years ago on the morning of October 17th, 2011, the eviction of over 80 Irish Traveller families from Dale Farm began as riot police and private bailiffs stormed the privately owned Traveller site. By about 5.30 pm the next day, the Dale Farm Travellers and their remaining activist allies marched peacefully out of the site together. Pearl McCarthy told journalists at the time that they were leaving with their heads held high.

A lot of the families did not move far, in fact most of them pulled their caravans and trailers onto a nearby access road. From living on their own land with facilities, water and electric, they were now forced to camp by the side of the road. The eviction cost Basildon Council, the police and the government millions of pounds. Mary Sheridan, a Traveller who lived on the evicted Dale Farm site and was moved to the adjacent Oak Lane, said shortly after the eviction: "For all that money all they've done is move us 50 metres. We will stay on the lane because where else can we go?"

Yet Gypsies and Travellers "staying on the lane" could soon be removed as an option if a new draconian Government Bill becomes law. The Bill is currently going through Parliament and is not law yet, but campaigners admit that it is likely to be passed despite their best efforts.

The Government say that the new law will only affect Travellers causing "significant distress, disturbance or damage". Yet campaigners say that the wording of the new law – and its accompanying draft guidance to the police – is ambiguous and open to abuse by the authorities.

So, this issue has an unashamedly campaigning theme of sites, rights and fights, with our cover photo and photo centre spread devoted to the campaigners from Drive 2 Survive, a Gypsy, Roma and Traveller-led campaign organisation set up to fight the threatened new anti-Traveller law. We hope you enjoy this issue and until the next one in Spring 2022, please keep up with the latest news and views on our website at **www.travellerstimes.org.uk**

Mike Doherty, Editor, Travellers' Times.

The Travellers' Times is published by Rural Media. EDITOR: Mike Doherty | EDITOR AT LARGE: Damian Le Bas | PROJECT MANAGER: Julie Colman | YTT EDITOR: Lisa Smith CONTENT PRODUCER: Charles Newland | The Travellers' Times is the national magazine for Gypsies, Roma and Travellers, and people and organisations who work with them. We are guided by our editorial group and strive for accuracy and fairness. | CONTACT US AT: Travellers' Times, Packers House, 25 West Street, Hereford, HR4 OBX | 01432 344039 | travellerstimes@ruralmedia.co.uk | www.travellerstimes.org.uk



W RURAL MEDIA CHARITY

COVER PHOTO: GYPSY, ROMA AND TRAVELLER CAMPAIGNERS LEAVING THE MANCHESTER NEGOTIATED STOPPING PROTEST SITE bela varadi

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NEWS

NOWHERE TO GO

Thousands of Gypsy and Traveller people stuck on council Traveller site waiting lists are chasing less than 100 vacant pitches, an investigation by the charity Friends, Families and Travellers (FFT) has revealed.

Gypsy and Traveller families have been coping with the lack of pitches by 'doubling up' and moving onto friends and families' pitches meaning that Traveller sites are becoming increasingly overcrowded, say FFT. Other families are coping by buying their own land and moving onto it and then facing costly planning law battles. Other families are living by the side of the road.

Mary has been on her local council's waiting list for a vacant pitch for over three years.

"It's been three years and we still don't have a site," she said.

"The advice from the Liaison Officer was 'to park up where you feel safest and where people are least likely to complain'."

However, the option of 'parking up' by the side of the road may soon be closed as the Government is set to bring in new laws cracking down on unauthorised Traveller camps.

Responding to the findings of the research Sarah Sweeney, FFT's Policy and Communications Manager, said that Gypsies and Travellers increasingly have "nowhere to go".

"It is deeply unfair that while the Government is dramatically failing to identify enough land for Gypsy and Traveller families to live on, the Home Secretary is working to create laws to imprison, fine and remove the homes of families living on roadside camps for the 'crime' of having nowhere else to go," said Sarah Sweeney.

TT News/FFT

Main photo: "Costly planning battles." A private Traveller site in the south of England were local authority planning decisions mean that the owners cannot live there. © Huw Powell. Photo below: Irish Traveller family in their decorated caravan en route to the Cahirmee Horse Fair, Co. Cork, 1954 courtesy of National Library of Ireland on The Commons.



INTERNATIONAL IRISH TRAVELLER DAY

A new campaign steering group are proposing to create an International Irish Traveller Day to celebrate the rich heritage and culture of Irish Travellers.

The steering group say that they aim to create and turn International Irish Traveller Day into an annual opportunity to celebrate and raise awareness of the rich cultural traditions and heritage of their people.

"We feel that a day of our own to celebrate our rich heritage would help bring us closer together as a community, helping to spread a revived pride," say the steering group.

The idea was initially proposed by Josie O'Driscoll, CEO of GATE Herts (Gypsy and Traveller Empowerment Hertfordshire).

"I initially proposed the idea on social media and created an online survey which we shared, and we had a lot of interest from activists and GRT organisations," said Josie O'Driscoll.

Josie O'Driscoll added that the survey has been shared on Instagram and Tik Tok to get young people involved.

"We've had responses from U.K. Ireland, Armenia, Denmark Australia, America and Greenland so far."

TT News

WORLD FUNDER MONTH SEPTEMBER

SHOWMEN CELEBRATE WORLD FUN FAIR MONTH

The first-ever World Fun Fair Month this year was a "huge success" say Future4fairgrounds as they celebrate their second year as a campaign organisation.

Future4fairgrounds, which represents the travelling fairground community across the UK, was originally founded in September 2020 by "six lady Showmen".

"We are delighted to report World Fun Fair Month has been a huge success and has evolved into something much bigger than we ever imagined," said a Future4fairground spokesperson Colleen Roper. "We hope it's something that will continue to grow year on year."

World Fun Fair Month, which takes place in September, aims to unite Showmen from around the world to celebrate all aspects of the fairgrounds, and the joy they bring to communities everywhere. Showmen from the UK, Europe, North America, and Australasia were involved and working together to ensure this extraordinary event was truly global.

"After over a year of lockdowns and restrictions, with Covid impacting on everyone there has been a distinct lack of fun in people's lives," says Colleen Roper, who describes Future4fairgrounds as an "additional voice" to the already established trade bodies for the Funfair industry. Photo: From right to left: Nicola, Bernice, Narvenka, Colleen, Joannie and Hayley taken this year at Blackheath Fair, London by Marcus Gaines for Future4fairgrounds.

World Fun Fair Month is a celebration not just of the industry but also of the people that share a unique cultural heritage as Showmen. This is a tradition that has been passed down from generation to generation and is intrinsically linked with the towns they visit as Showmen and the fairgrounds that have been a staple of the local community for centuries.

"We wanted to use World Fun Fair Month as a reason to spark a thought, start a conversation, and for others to find out more about Showmen," says Colleen Roper.

"We wanted to raise the profile of Showmen in a positive way. We realised early on that unlike other Travelling communities we don't have an awareness month or a flag and this was something that we wanted to change straight away.

"Talking to Showmen around the world only reinforced to us that we all have many shared aspects of social history and despite the miles between us we are indeed very similar," adds Colleen Roper.

"You may have seen the World Fun Fair Month logo on flags and banners flying at many fairgrounds and on various social media platforms, which clearly shows the unity of the community as everyone got involved and was proud to say 'I Am a Showman!'"

TT NEWS



JASON DOE

Jason Doe awarded prestigious scholarship from British Fashion Council.

Fashion Design student, Romany Gypsy Jason Doe, was delighted to find out that he had been chosen to receive a scholarship from the British Fashion Council.

The receipt of this funding makes Jason not only the first Buckinghamshire New University student to receive the prestigious grant, but also the first person of Gypsy, Traveller, Roma, Showmen and Boater (GTRSB) heritage to do so.

Applications are assessed based on talent and portfolio and there is strong competition from students across the UK. The British Fashion Council then provides their handpicked winners with funding to support their final collection production costs.

Jason's final collection aims to explore and celebrate the traditions and kinship of his Romany heritage. He notes that a key element of his design work is

storytelling, which he credits as a long-standing Gypsy tradition. "This scholarship really means a lot to me but is also great for representation for Romany culture,' said Jason Doe. "It was a real shock when I found out I'd been chosen, but I can't deny that I'm thrilled. "Access to higher education is not always an easy road for people from my background either, so I'm incredibly proud to not only be the recipient of this funding, but to be here at university, doing this course," added Jason Doe. Jason hopes that the networking opportunities associated with the scholarship will also help him in his job search now that he is heading towards graduation. His current aspiration is to land a junior position with an existing designer, but the ultimate dream for Jason is to eventually go solo. Course Leader for BA (Hons) Fashion Design, Brigitte Stockton, said that the scholarship award was a "truly well-deserved opportunity for Jason, who is

Jason Doe © Buckinghamshire New University. Jason's final collection aims to celebrate the traditions of his Romany heritage.



incredibly committed to his studies and can always be found in the studio experimenting and striving for perfection."

Bucks New University is proud to celebrate and support the varied and valued contributions the GTRSB communities make to higher education and British culture.

In January 2021, the University launched the GTRSB into Higher Education Pledge to encourage other universities, colleges or educational institutions to support community members into and within higher education.

As part of the University's ongoing commitment, a GTRSB student bursary was also introduced in 2020 to further encourage and support members of these communities in accessing higher education. This is in addition to the support already offered with accommodation, assistance with university applications, and providing mentorship throughout a student's studies.

TT News



ART NEWS AROUND THE YOG

'Around the Yo' was an exhibition inspired by an exciting community project led by Brighton based charity Friends, Families & Travellers and supported by the National Lottery Community Fund.

The community project facilitates traditional skill sharing and intergenerational learning within Gypsy, Traveller and nomadic communities in West Sussex.

Traditionally, Travelling people have utilised their crafts and skills to make a living. These skills are passed down from generation to generation. The 'Around the Yog' project aims to continue this skill sharing and harvest positive relationships between diverse



groups of people within Gypsy, Traveller and nomadic communities.

"The exhibition was such a beautiful opportunity to share the work of some very talented individuals with the wider public," said Around the Yog curator Martha Ostick. "It really highlighted the rich and varied skills of the diverse Travelling communities."

TT News



Main Photo: Around the Yog exhibition © Lauren Matthews

Photo Left: Vardo painted by Sarah Harvey, fire-pit by blacksmith Jake Bowers, chainsaw carvings by Rory and Maddie © Lauren Matthews

Photo Right: Martha Ostick with artist Gareth Lock $\ensuremath{\mathbb{C}}$ Lauren Matthews



THE ROAD AHEAD

The National Lottery has awarded over a million pounds to the Travellers' Times so that it can increase its video and print content and recruit 20-40 trainees, with the aim of becoming a completely independent Gypsy, Roma and Traveller-led organisation.

Part of the funding for the new four-year 'TT Vision' project will be used to recruit, train and provide work placements for Gypsy, Roma and Traveller people, who will be earning the living wage, whilst they learn and gain experience.

Travellers' Times is currently managed by Rural Media, who have been working with Gypsy, Roma and Traveller people for over 30 years.

"TT Vision is an amazing project and I am looking forward to working with our new trainees over the next four years and passing on my professional skills and experience," said Mike Doherty, TT Editor. "TT Vision is also a unique and special opportunity for any Gypsy, Roma and Traveller people wanting to break into a career in media, communications, campaigns and/or charity work and will be a massive kickstart to their CV after successful completion of the training and placement," he added.

Rural Media will remain as project manager for the four-year TT Vision project before handing over the reins to the new independent GRT-led trustees and staff of an independent Travellers' Times.

Lisa Smith, Travellers' Times Youth Editor, said that TT Vision would focus on empowerment. "We are so pleased to be able to expand the work of the Travellers' Times. With a strong focus on community leadership and empowerment, this project will drive forward our commitment to creating space for counter-narratives to the dominant mainstream media, a place where Gypsies and Travellers have a platform to tell their side of the story."

Media professionals, educators and business leaders will provide training

Photo: Lisa Smith chairing YAG meeting © Jordan McGibney

for the trainees in media and communications, video production, management and finance, marketing and distribution, public relations, leadership and life skills.

Julie Colman, Travellers' Times Project Manager said, "TT Vision is our most ambitious project to date. We want to 'break the glass ceiling' for Gypsies, Roma and Travellers wanting to become media producers and, by the end of the four-year project, see the Travellers' Times supported into independence as a Gypsy, Roma and Traveller-led organisation."

TT have put together an advisory group of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller people who will help shape the training and the future of Travellers' Times. The group met for the first time in November 2021.

Recruitment of TT Vision trainees will start in February 2022. So for further details about what to expect from the training and how to apply make sure you are signed up to the TT e-Newsletter and keep an eye on the website, social media channels and a TT Mag special edition.









Drive 2 Survive (D2S) was established by grassroots community members in May 2021 in response to concerns regarding proposed government legislation that would negatively impact on the nomadic rights of Gypsies, Travellers and Roma communities in England and Wales.

We have a board of Ethnic Irish Traveller, Roma and Romany Gypsy members, supported by a steering group of over 20 community members, which includes representation from Scotland, Ireland, Wales, and from Showmen, van dwellers and New Travellers. We are determined to use peaceful protest and to highlight the aspects of our cultures that are not told by the media. We realise we are stronger together and have solidarity in numbers and supporters. We are grassroots, learning as we go. This is our story, so far, in pictures.





- 1. Leading the way: Drive 2 Survive at the Manchester anti-racism rally $\textcircled{}{}^{\odot}$ Bela Varadi
- 2. The Drive 2 Survive big top at Appleby Fair $\textcircled{}{}^{\odot}$ Huw Powell
- 3. Having a good time at the talent contest in the Drive 2 Survive Appleby Fair big top $\textcircled{}{}^{\odot}$ Hugh Powell
- 4. London Drive 2 Survive rally © Huw Powell
- **5.** Discussing tactics at Appleby Horse Fair. L-r: Billy Welch, D2S co-founder Sherrie Smith and Mattey Smith. The other D2S co-founder is Jake Bowers (not pictured) © Hugh Powell





- **6.** Getting ready for the Manchester rally at the nearby temporary Traveller site © Mike Doherty
- 7. London Drive 2 Survive rally © Huw Powell
- 8. Campaigners leave a Traveller site in West London for the London Drive 2 Survive Rally L-R: Virgil Bitu, Pat O'Donnell and Billy Welch seated, John Doe. © Huw Powell
- 9. New Travellers prepare banners at the No Fixed Abode Traveller camp $\ensuremath{\mathbb{C}}$ Mike Doherty

MAGGIE MCPHEE

"WE HAVE TO ADAPT TO THEIR WAY OF DOING THINGS, YET THEY NEVER ADAPT TO OURS."

"I was Travelling until I got married at 19," says Maggie McPhee, who still lives on a Traveller site in Perth, Scotland. The beauty of the nomadic life shines through in Maggie's writing. Her poems and prose are full of the enchantment of a young child, and then young woman, following the road, the seasons, and the work, in Scotland. Yet Maggie's writing also resonates with loss and sadness for a traditional way of life that is becoming "increasingly harder".

"Back then, you would need only to complete six months a year in school," says Maggie. "So, in autumn and winter we would stay in Perth and then in the spring we would pack up and be off to the Highlands." Once they arrived at a camp, Maggie, her sister, two brothers and mum and dad. would unhitch the caravans from the vans and set up a big tent to wash in, although if there was a nearby stream, they would often wash in that if the water was not too cold. The stream would also become a fridge for their milk and butter. Sometimes they would

Sometimes they would cook on an open fire, sometimes not. Sometimes Maggie's brother – a keen fisherman – would catch some salmon and trout which he would then sell in the negrest town. Maggie's dad, James McPhee, would avoid the cities and towns because "the people were not so friendly". Instead, he preferred to stop in the villages or "way out in the middle of nowhere", says Maggie. "My dad would only ever leave a footprint, there would never be any mess left behind. A lot of people knew my dad and how hard he and his friend Sammy Stewart fought for a proper site with the right amenities for Travellers, and a proper base for the winter."

The McPhee family would follow the work and make a living "picking the berries and the tatties", and as whelk collectors on the Lochgilphead inlet of Loch Fyne, a sea loch on the stunningly beautiful west coast of Argyll and Bute.

"We would pick the tide out, and then pick the tide in," says Maggie. "I miss the peace and quiet, being in the middle of nowhere, the glens, the hills and the waterfalls and hearing the sea from the camp.

> "Travelling has got harder with all the old stopping places closed off," adds Maggie. "For hundreds of years Travellers have been using them, but now they are car parks for tourists, blocked off by boulders, or built on. All the councils and government need to do is open them up, or buy a small bit of land put down some hardstanding and a toilet.

They have taken away our way of life. We have to adapt to their way of doing things, yet they never adapt to ours."

Mike Doherty

Photo: Maggie McPhee © Maggie McPhee

POETRY

By Maggie McPhee

NO MORE

No more bow camps.

No more horses pulling wagons with all your worldly possessions in them.

No more weans running about bare feet and wild, with skin as brown as berries.

No more women bent over big tin baths scrubbing at their washing until their hands are cracked.

No more proud men that will turn their hands to anything that will feed their families.

No more shifting from towns to cities to find work and visit family.

No more sitting around a campfire telling stories and passing wisdom to others.

No more trailers and lorries to stay at private caravan parks.

No more water from garages.

No more venues for weddings and parties.

No more camping on the roadside.

No more.

Okay, well...

No more taking our historic campsites from us. No more singling us out.

No more persecution or judgement for our way of life and how we live it.

No more lack of empathy for how we are treated in our own country.

Well, I say.

No more.

THROUGH TRAVELLERS' EYES

I think back to when I was younger. What I took for granted. The life and freedom My daddy and mammy gave me.

The countryside was our playground. Every camp different – One week in a quarry, Next week on a shore. Watching the tide go in and out.

When you are young you Don't see the beauty. The mountains and the rivers. The sky shielded from Light pollution.

Stars shone brighter. More amazing than anything Your young eyes had ever seen. A privileged life denied to many Who haven't seen the world

Through a Traveller's eyes.



Sally Barter has worked in **Traveller education for over** 25 years. Sally tells us why she believes education today is important for the future of our children.

Children begin to learn from a very early age, learning opportunities can be found all around us and not everything is learnt from a book.

As Traveller children we are brought up to observe and respect our parents and families. We are taught to listen, respect their wisdom and words and learn from them when we can.

Through them, our rich and unique culture is passed down to us via word of mouth, in the form of our own language and by virtue of the authentic learning opportunities that are woven throughout a Traveller childhood.

I have always considered myself to be lucky as some amazing childhood experiences have given me the memories I now cherish as an adult. These memories, of being with family and at fairs, celebrations, weddings and even

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funerals, are all important to us. These are all positive affirmations of our Traveller roots and identity.

One thing I have learnt in my 25 years of working in Traveller education is that formal schooling is not a trade-off or dilution of our culture or its integrity, but instead a broadening of it and an empowerment that can lead to new horizons and possibilities. Education brings opportunity and change as well as freedom of choice and power. I would never trade my Traveller identity and the respect of my community for any academic success or achievement but why can't both be as equally valued and prized?

Some of the cleverest people I know never had a formal education, never went to school and couldn't read and write, but in today's modern world lack of literacy skills is a definite disadvantage. In my own close family, I have a much loved and respected aunt and at 86 years of age she tells me the biggest regret and sadness in her life is that as a young Traveller girl she wasn't allowed to go to

school, and she was never given the opportunity to learn to read and write.

Today that right is there for our children, a right that every child is entitled to. No one can take that away from us.

I like, many Travellers, have experienced prejudice and discrimination but I know that education can bring about change and break down barriers. No racism can prevent us from being what we choose to be if we put our minds to it. Our children today have the advantage of being media-savvy and familiar with the written word and a mobile phone is a window to the world nowadays.

Times have changed and I believe that we can channel and use the determination, strong will and sense of pride, which has been instilled in us from birth and helps us overcome the casual anti-Traveller racism that we have encountered for generations, to make change, be the change and be whatever we want to be.

By Sally Barter

OPINION **KERENSA SMITH**

"THEY SAY FOR EVIL TO PREVAIL THE GOOD PEOPLE MUST SIT AROUND AND DO NOTHING"

Kerensa Smith, a Romany Gypsy horse dealer, scrap dealer and singer, tells us why she joined the Drive 2 Survive campaign against the new anti-Traveller laws, part of the wider controversial Police Bill currently going through Parliament.

While the world has been turning very slow, the powers that be have been moving very fast, creating new laws that will change our way of life forever.

The Drive 2 Survive big top on Fair Hill just added to the nostalgia of Appleby Horse Fair. Inside was a celebration of Traveller life with art and music but with also with a remembrance exhibition of the genocide of the Roma and Sinti during the Holocaust, lest we forget.

Even with the dark cloud of the Police Bill hanging over the Travelling community, spirits were high. The atmosphere was family orientated with all generations pleased to be in each other's company.

The Appleby's Got Talent competition in the big top had some amazing singers, but the winners were always the children.

On Friday, the day of my arrival, I sang for the receptive audience which led to a privileged invitation to perform in the main show on Saturday. I was accompanied by the legendary musician Bill Lloyd.

A Roma band took to the stage transforming the big top into a vibrant Gypsy café. The show's lineup consisted of, but not limited to, Irish, Scottish and English Travellers. A traditional Roma band, New Traveller and folk singers; all putting on an amazing performance, coming together in solidarity against the Police Bill.

We exchanged stories around the campfire and arranged to meet in Manchester



to protest against the new anti-Traveller laws at the Conservative Party conference.

In Manchester, Drive 2 Survive led the charge with bold horses. Our drummers put a beat to the march. Jake Bowers, Sherrie Smith, rokkered the jib over the tannoy with a message of defiance. Marvina Newton, Leeds founder of Black Lives Matter and Chantelle Lunt, the Merseyside founder, called the chant and along with Nahella Ashraf, from Manchester Stand Up To Racism, were just a few of the many advocating for the masses. There is no doubt they stand united with Drive 2 Survive against racism to Romani Gypsies and Travellers. Thousands marched with us in Manchester and I was proud that I too, marched against tyranny. I heard the people and I saw for myself. Believe me when I tell you, the revolution will not be televised.

The Government has taken the land until there is nothing left, cornering the nomadic people into checkmate, criminalising their culture, illegalising the traditions and heritage of their ancestors; is this the final solution?

By Kerensa Smith

LONG COVID

Would you like to take part in finding out more about Long Covid, do you know about this condition, and would you like to find out more?

Please contact Derbyshire Gypsy Liaison Group if you would like to take part in this work undertaken in partnership with National Voices.

Please ring **07799 443 830, 07584 094 211** between 10am and 3pm or email **info@dglg.org**

Long Covid suffers can commonly suffer from some or all of these symptoms: Loss of vision. Red eyes. Vertigo. Tiredness. Muscle pain. Lack of appetite. Diarrhoea. Joint pain. Headache. Rhinitis. Loss of/changed sense of taste and/ or smell. Sore throat. Cough. Chest pain. Shortness of breath.

NATIONAL VOICES

Project aims and objectives

- To understand the experiences and support needs of Gypsy and Traveller people with Long Covid.
- Exploring the barriers to accessing support.
- Building a set of recommendations for existing and
- future services and providing a case for how organisations can support members of the Gypsy and Traveller and other ethnic communities to manage Long Covid.
- To test and trial what messaging, communication and support methods work and do not work in communities.

Photo: © Bermix Studio

NHS

Stop the spread this winter.



The flu virus kills almost 11,000 people and hospitalises tens of thousands more in England in an average year. It's more important than ever to get your flu jab this year.

Find out if you're eligible for a free flu vaccine at nhs.uk/wintervaccinations



HELPLINES AND USEFUL WEBSITES

TRAVELLING AHEAD

Support & advice for Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities across Wales

0808 802 0025 travellingahead@tgpcymru.org.uk

TRAVELLER MOVEMENT

Providing support and advice nationally to Gypsies and Travellers. Visit our website.

www.travellermovement.org.uk 0207 607 2002 info@travellermovement.org.uk

FRIENDS, FAMILIES & TRAVELLERS

Working on behalf of all Gypsies, Roma and Travellers regardless of ethnicity, culture or background.

01273 234777 | fft@gypsy-traveller.org www.gypsy-traveller.org

LEEDS GYPSY AND TRAVELLER EXCHANGE

Confidential support and advocacy for Gypsies and Travellers living in or passing through West Yorkshire

0113 2402444 | www.leedsgate.co.uk

ROMA SUPPORT GROUP

Supporting and empowering the Roma community. Contact us on

0794 908 9778 info@romasupportgroup.org.uk www.romasupportgroup.org.uk

ONE CALL AWAY

Gypsy & Traveller Mental Health and Support.

077489 97617





LGBT TRAVELLER PRIDE ADVICE AND SUPPORT FOR LGBTQ + GYPSIES, ROMA & TRAVELLERS

07395 355 066 www.lgbttravellerpride.com

TRAVELLERS ADVICE TEAM

Legal advice and support for Gypsies and Travellers facing eviction.

0121 685 8677 www.communitylawpartnership.co.uk

SAMARITANS

116 123 | www.samaritans.org

CHILD LINE 0800 1111| www.childline.org.uk

NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HELPLINE

0808 2000 247 www.nationaldahelpline.org.uk

WOMEN'S AID (DOMESTIC ABUSE)

www.womensaid.org.uk

MIND

For better mental health. 0300 123 3393 | www.mind.org.uk

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

0800 9177 650 www.alcoholics-anonymous.org.uk

MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

Providing physical, financial and emotional support to people living with cancer and their families.

0808 808 00 00 (7 days a week, 8am – 8pm) www.macmillan.org.uk

Travellers' Times has loads of other useful advice and support numbers on our website visit www.travellerstimes.org.uk/advice