



**Directory
Of
Gypsy & Traveller
Groups**

*Funded by the Travellers Aid Trust's
DIY Fund
Between 2005 and 2007*

OVERVIEW

The Travellers Aid Trust is the only independent grant maker specifically dedicated to supporting the many Gypsy and Traveller communities in the UK. Although small by comparison to many mainstream grant makers, the Trust plays an important and vital role as a result of its knowledge of this marginalized and disadvantaged group and the proactive approach it adopts. Following five years of work supporting and promoting local, national and regional Gypsy and Traveller groups, the Trust is looking back over its work and the communities it has funded. This directory lists those Gypsy and Traveller groups that have benefited directly from the support of the Travellers Aid Trust through the DIY Fund between 2005 and 2007. All groups listed are constituted.

This directory **does not** comprise a complete listing of Gypsy and Traveller groups in the UK and may not fully detail the current activities of the groups listed. The information given is taken directly from information supplied to the Trust by groups during application and/or monitoring processes and does not represent the views or opinions of the Trust. For fully up-to-date information, please contact groups directly.

BACKGROUND OF THE DIY FUND

At the time when the Travellers Aid Trust was being re-launched, Comic Relief commissioned a report entitled *Evaluation of Comic Relief's Special Initiative for Gypsies and Travellers 2003* exploring the difficulties experienced by Gypsy and Traveller groups in securing funding. While the Trust was developing and delivering targeted grants programmes to benefit individual Gypsies and Travellers, Comic Relief entered into a phase of dedicated funding to provide core grants to local, regional and national groups representing or working with Travellers. As part of this initiative, they also sought to support the Traveller Law Reform process which was emerging at that time. In October 2004, the Travellers Aid Trust was invited to become involved in the work being done by Comic Relief by facilitating and administering a grant to employ a Development Worker to support and develop the Traveller Law Reform Coalition - a shared platform for all Gypsies and Travellers to have a voice in lobbying for law reform. The Coalition eventually broke down in 2006 due to strong differences of opinion and two separate projects (The Traveller Law Reform Project and the National Federation of Gypsy Liaison Groups) evolved out of it to continue its work and are still running today.

As a result of the increase in core support given to some of the larger and more established Gypsy and Traveller groups by Comic Relief (as well as by others such as the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust, Allen Lane Foundation, the Tudor Trust and Big Lottery Fund outside of London and City Parochial and Bridge Trust in London), these organisations became better placed to support the many smaller emerging and struggling community groups that had started to spring up in the wake of the Coalition's work, but which in turn were struggling for funding. As a result of consultation with the Coalition members and the Trust, Comic Relief launched a final targeted programme of small grants for Gypsies and Travellers in late 2004 to help start up or develop these smaller groups. Again, the Trust was asked to become directly involved and took over the programme during its first round of grants. This programme became known as the DIY Fund and has provided grants of up to £3,000 to groups with an income of under £50,000. The Trust has since added further funds from its own asset to provide bridging grants of £1,000 to groups previously funded by Comic Relief or through the DIY Fund which are still struggling.

September 2008

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Active Community Living

Sam Wingfield
Plot 8
Daneshill Caravan Site
Lound, , Retford
Notts DN2 2RB
07881 481 985



Aims and Objectives:

Set up in October 2006, this is an umbrella group of active, positive Travellers engaged in separate projects with the same basic aim of improving the image of Travellers within their home locations and the broader community. They wish to empower their own community by creating education, health and work based projects for all ages. The group was awarded a grant of £800 through the DIY Fund to run a series of open days to promote Traveller life-styles.

Blackpool Romany Women's Project

Lisa Young
155 Vicarage Lane
Murton
Blackpool
FY4 4EN
01253 839 278

Aims and Objectives:

Set up in July 2005, this group represents the interests of Romany Gypsy women, in particular the advancement and promotion of education for Romany women. The group was awarded a grant of £3,000 through the DIY Fund to run literacy classes for Gypsy women.



Bolsover District Gypsy & Traveller Forum

Bob Dawson
DGLG
Office 3
Ernst Bailey Community Centre
New Street, Matlock
DE4 3FE
01629 583 300



Aims and Objectives:

This multi-agency forum was set up to co-ordinate and develop services for Traveller and Gypsy families throughout the District of Bolsover and to promote equality of opportunity. The Forum received a grant of £3,000 through the DIY Fund (which was managed on behalf of the Forum by the Derbyshire Gypsy Liaison Group) to purchase a portacabin for use as a health clinic and other activities for the benefit of residents on the Blackbridge Caravan Park.

Bowtop Wagoners

C/O Sefton Voices
Hawthorn House
503 Hawthorn Road
Bootle, Merseyside
L20 6JJ
0151 285 4058

Aims and Objectives:

Set up in May 2005, this site residents group aims to improve the facilities for children and families living on the Broad Lane Site in Merseyside. The group were awarded a grant of £2,952 under the DIY Fund to help develop the capacity of management committee.

Burybrickfields Steering Group

Ms P Smith
c/o Forest Bus House
Unit a8.2 North Road,
Marchwood Industrial Park
Normandy Way, Marchwood
Hants SO40 4PB
0238 0663 866

Aims and Objectives:

Set up in May 1995, this group aims to provide a range of services to children, young people and their families living on the Burybrickfields Site so as to ensure their health, social and educational needs are being met. The group was awarded a grant of £2,000 under the DIY Fund to employ a sessional worker to work with the families on the site to help improve conditions, arrange positive activities and deal with some of the problems they were experiencing.

Calderdale Boaters

Guy Rees
P.O. Box 54
Hebden Bridge
HX7 6WY
07984 207 715

Aims and Objectives:

Set up in 2001, this group aims to represent the interests on the boating community on the Rochdale Canal and raise awareness of environmental issues among canal users. Activities included negotiating with British Waterways, local planning authorities, parish councils and others as well as a national survey of boaters interests in the face of proposed new Waterways cruising regulations. The group was awarded a grant of £2,300 under the DIY Fund towards their basic running costs.

Canterbury Gypsy Support Group

Bridie Jones
Top Floor,
47a Norman Road,
Canterbury,
Kent CT1 3LX
01227 453 441

Aims and Objectives:

Formally constituted in January 2004, this group aims to promote the good health and advance the education of Gypsies and Travellers who are in a condition of need, hardship or distress and to promote equality of opportunity and good relations between Gypsies, Travellers and the settled community. The group has received a number of small grants under the Violet Clegg fund and following a grant of £3,000 from Comic Relief, received a grant of £3,000 under the DIY Fund towards their running costs.



Circus Parents Association

Kornelia Fossett
c/o WMCESTC
The Graiseley Centre
Pool Street
Wolverhampton
WV2 4NE
01902 714 646

Aims and Objectives:

Set up in January 2003, this group aims to reduce the social and educational isolation of Circus children, to provide a platform for Circus parents and to support them in supporting their children, to raise awareness of others about the way of life of Circus children to reduce prejudice and stereotyping, to conduct an annual survey of existing and new Circus children, to consult with Circus families, to liaise with DfES and Traveller Educations Services and to support and encourage social and educational contact between Circus children during the touring season to support their motivation, self esteem and communication skills. The group was awarded a grant under the DIY Fund to develop and create a website that would serve as a communications hub linking parents and children as they travelled.



The Clearwater Gypsies

Greg Yates
2 Clearwater
Ratham Lane
West Ashling
Chichester
W. Sussex PO18 8DL
01243 572 367

Aims and Objectives:

Formally constituted in March 2005, this group aims to forge links with the settled community, to advise authorities to work with Gypsies and not against them in order to provide more accommodation on allocated land suitable for Gypsy families to occupy. Following a grant of £3,000 from Comic Relief, the group received two grants totalling £4,000 through the DIY Fund to help meet their basic running costs.

East Europe Support Network

Peter Mozolewski
50 Thurlby Road
Wembley
Middlesex HA0 4RS
0208 903 1084

Aims and Objectives:

This group was set up in December 2005 to relieve poverty and hardship, the advancement of education and training, the promotion of social resettlement, in particular, by the provision of advice, support and information, for the benefit of persons ages 18 and over residing within the London area originating from Eastern Europe. The group received two grants totalling £4,000 from the DIY Fund to create a Traveller support group within the organisation.



Federation of Gypsy Liaison Groups

Mrs. N. R. Hatch
c/o DGLG
Office 3
Ernst Bailey Community Centre
New Street, Matlock
DE4 3FE
01629 583 300

Aims and Objectives:

Set up in October 2005, the Federations original aim was to improve the life of elderly or disabled Gypsies and to lobby for their equal rights in society, to liaise with county, district and other agencies to promote good health, advance the living conditions of those Gypsies in need, to assist in the housing needs assessments when able and to liaise between the settled community and all traditional Traveller communities to increase understanding and improve community cohesion. The Federation initially received a grant of £3,000 to host a conference highlighting the needs of the elderly and disabled but broadened its objectives following the disbanding of the Gypsy and Traveller Law Reform Coalition and became the National Federation of Gypsy and Traveller Liaison Groups. While the Federation continues to host regional conferences, it also provides a platform for the traditional Traveller community, helps the Gypsy and Traveller network forums meet and updates the website for the various Gypsy/Traveller groups.

Gypsy Traveller Action Group

Mrs. Isa Sutherland
Bay 1
Denningstown Forge
Dumbarton
Scotland
G82 4BW
01389 734 884

Aims and Objectives:

Set up in February 2006, this group aims to ensure that the needs of Scottish Gypsy Travellers residing in the Dunbarton area and in particular around Dennystown Forge, are met, to relieve poverty and distress, to promote housing and services to young people, to improve standards of living, to address local issues and ensure that they are able to play a part in decisions that affect them and to develop partnerships with other agencies in order to achieve the aims of the group. The group was awarded £3,000 under the DIY Fund to set up and run their group.



Green Cools

Chloe Wilson
07969 669 997

Aims and Objectives:

Set up in October 2006, this group aims to empower and educate young people to take control of their lives and live in a sustainable manner. The group was awarded a grant of £2,200 under the DIY Fund to set up and run a workshop space at the Big Green Gathering 2007 aimed at engaging teenage Travellers.

Horsedrawn Camp

Pete Delaney
c/o Grooms Cottage
East Kennett
Malborough
Wiltshire SN8 4EY
07932 002 961



Aims and Objectives:

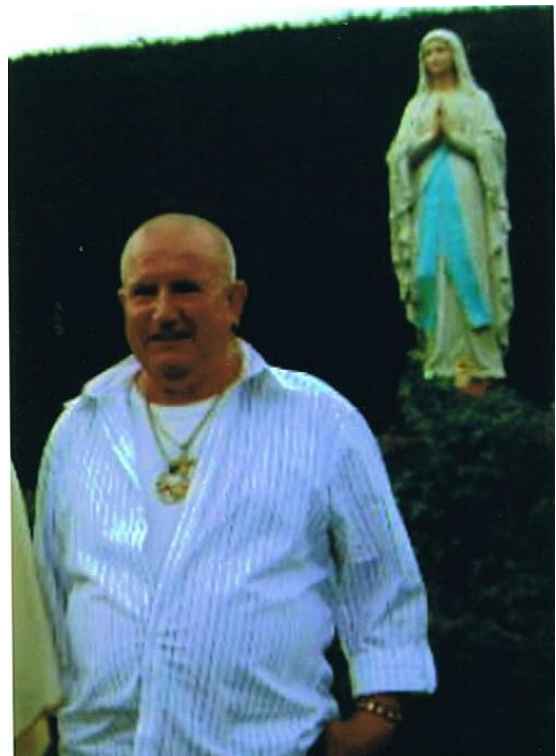
Set up in 2000 and formally constituted in 2007, this group aims to give the Horsedrawn community, their families and kids a sense of community by creating a place and purpose for their gatherings and by promoting and facilitating employment suitable to the values of the community and thereby showing this and future generations that this is a viable lifestyle. The group received two grants totalling £4,000 to help them hold a series of gatherings and towards providing a disabled cart at events, kids spaces, craft workshops, a café and volunteer costs.

Justice for Travellers

Tommy Collins
9 Mowbary Court
Leeds LS14 6UN
0113 264 8658

Aims and Objectives:

Set up in 1991, this Irish Traveller group aims to represent the interests of the Traveller community and to promote law reform to benefit all Gypsies and Travellers in Leeds and the surrounding area. They aim to campaign in achieving equal human rights by providing access to education, health and living conditions and to promote and organise cooperation in the achievement of these purposes. The group received a grant of £3,000 through the DIY Fund to help meet its basic running costs.



Leicester Gypsy Council Liaison Group

Alfie Kefford
Rosevale House
Hinkly Road
Sapcote
LE9 4LH
07838 340 371

Aims and Objectives:

Set up in January 2005, the group was established for the benefit of the Gypsy community in the county of Leicestershire and surrounding area and in particular to campaign for the human rights of Gypsies, to work to improve their education, health and living conditions and to promote and organize cooperation in the achievement of these purposes. Following a grant of £3,000 from Comic Relief, the group received a grant of £3,000 under the DIY Fund towards their basic running costs.



Lincolnshire Gypsy Liaison Group

Ryalla Duffy
Room 11a,
Waterfront Enterprise Centre,
Lea Road, Gainsborough
DN21 1LX
01427 619 521
Ryalla.lglg@hotmail.co.uk

Aims and Objectives:

Set up in July 2005, the aim of this group is the preservation of Romany Gypsy culture in all aspects of heritage, to promote the wider understanding of Gypsy history and culture, to liaise with country and district bodies and other agencies in order to promote good health, provide advice and advance the education of Gypsies who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress, to liaise between the settled community and the traditional Traveller community and to increase understanding and improve community cohesion. The group were awarded a grant of £3,000 to help meet their basic running costs.

Lollo Bal

Richard O'Neil
6 Tamworth Brandlesholme
Bury
Lancs BL8 1DP
07918 103 051

Aims and Objectives:

Set up in November 2005, the aim of this group is to educate others by the traditional Romani method of storytelling to increase cultural awareness of Gypsy/Traveller culture, to educate others about their history and to present a way of life in an entertaining way. The group was awarded a grant of £3,000 to set up and market itself to schools, museums and libraries and to meet their basic running cost.



Mulatni

Matt Rey
Cargen Grove, Cargen
Dumfries, Scotland
DG2 8ET
07736 813 317

Aims and Objectives:

Set up in June 2006, this group aims to promote Horsedrawn Traveller culture through the arts and to create a focal point for their community at festivals, fairs and gatherings by providing a platform for storytelling, music, plays and other activities. The group was awarded a grant of £3,000 to build a horse-drawn, solar powered stage for the benefit of and use by the community.

National Romany Rights Association

Basil Burton
10 Dugdell Close
Ferndown
Dorset
BH22 8BH
01202 893 228

Aims and Objectives:

Originally set up in the 1970s, this group aims to advance the education of the general public concerning the culture, history and lifestyle of Romani people and other Travellers and to provide support and advice for Romani people and other Travellers to promote and sustain their independence, legal rights, culture and social inclusion. Following a grant of £3,000 from Comic Relief, the group was awarded a grant of £3,000 from the DIY Fund to help meet their basic running costs.

National Travellers Action Group

Janie and Cliff Codona
3a Hope Lane
St Johns Fen End
Kings Lynn
Norfolk PE14 8JD
01945 430 995

Aims and Objectives:

Set up in 1999, this group aims to support and empower Gypsies, Travellers and Roma to improve the quality of their lives, to promote capacity building and empowerment via self-representation, to assist in dealing with advocacy and undertaking activities and projects which work to reduce isolation and exclusion of community members, to inform local/statutory agencies and policy makers about the effects of their decisions and to work with them to enable development of policies and services which provide for the needs of the Gypsy, Traveller and Roma communities and promote good practice. Following a grant of £3,000 from Comic Relief, the group received a grant of £3,000 under the DIY Fund to help meet their general running costs.

One Voice

Shirley Barrett
PO Box 9635
Sudbury
Suffolk CO10 8WW
07790 801 422



Aims and Objectives:

Set up in November 2005, this is a non-judgemental and confidential community based group of women and young people working to reduce violence by holding meetings, recognizing that respect is a two way street, through activities, facing challenges, doing out reach advocacy, speaking up, valuing the strengths of individual members and talking, listening and learning. The group received a grant of £3,000 under the DIY Fund to meet their basic running costs.

Pavee Advise Assist and Direct

Frank Rattigan
PO Box 429
Margate
Kent
CT9 9AA
07786 105 752

Aims and Objectives:

Set up in 2000, this Irish Traveller group aims to support, represent and offer an advisory service to Travellers in Kent and throughout the UK. Following a number of small grants under the Violet Clegg Fund and a grant of £3,000 from Comic Relief, the group received a grant of £3,000 under the DIY Fund to help meet its basic running costs.



Pride not Prejudice

c/o DGLG
Earnst Bailey Community Centre
New Street, Matlock
DE4 3FE
01629 583 300

Aims and Objectives:

Set up in November 2004, this group aims to benefit the Gypsy and Traveller community nationally by capacity building through training and education, to encourage Romany Gypsies and Irish Travellers to undertake training so that they themselves may train others and thereby bring about a better understanding between the travelling community, the police and other agencies. The group also promotes the running of the Pride not Prejudice conference as a rolling programme across Britain. The group were awarded a grant of £3,000 under the DIY Fund towards its basic running costs and to arrange a two day training session for members of the Gypsy and Traveller population wanting to get involved in the future of the Moving Forward Police Training.

Riverbirds Youth Group

Charlotte Mcleod
26 Grays Farm Production Village
St. Pauls Cray
BR5 3BD

Aims and Objectives:

Constituted in December 2004, this groups aims to promote the benefit of the young people and families living , working or otherwise participating in the Saint Mary Cray and surrounding area without distinction by associating the local authorities, voluntary organisations, businesses and other organisations and inhabitants in a common effort to advance, education and to improve the physical and economic conditions and quality of life in the St Mary Cray and surrounding area and to provide facilities in the interest of social welfare for recreation and leisure time occupation. The group were awarded a grant of £2,000 from the DIY Fund to help meet their basic running and staffing costs so that they could increase the provision of sessions to young people in the area.



Romany Theatre Company

Dan Allum
1 Cornhill
Ipswich
IP1 1AQ
01986 783 906

Aims and Objectives:

Set up in April 2003, this group aims to advance the education of young Romany people aged between 12 and 25 in performing arts and theatrical production by the provision of opportunities and training and to advance the education of the public in issues relating to Romany people and their culture through the provision of theatrical productions and workshops. The group were awarded a grant of £3,000 from the DIY Fund to carry out consultation work with young Romany people.

The Scottish Gypsy Traveller Law Reform Coalition

Roseanna McPhee
The Caravan
Bobbin Mill
Pitlochry
Perthshire
PH16 5BP



Aims and Objectives:

Formally constituted in May 2006 and emerging as a result of the work that was being done by the Gypsy & Traveller Law Reform Coalition, this group aims to effect positive legal reform, to draft bills and lobby for their introduction through parliament and to improve the current legal framework for Gypsies and Travellers in Scotland. The group was awarded a grant of £3,000 from the DIY Fund towards their basic running costs.

The Southern Romany Gypsy Liaison Group

Maggie Smith-Bendell
11 Bradley Lane
Ashcott, Nr. Bridgewater
Somerset TA7 9BH
01173 146 405

Aims and Objectives:

Set up in June 2005, this group aims to campaign for human rights and the acceptance of Gypsy/Traveller culture, to work to improve their education, health and living conditions and to promote and organise co-operation in the achievement of these purposes, liaising with the authorities to achieve this aim. The group was awarded a grant of £3,000 under the DIY Fund to help meet their basic running costs.

The South East Romany Museum

Pam Hayward
14 Norrington Rd
Maidstone
Kent ME15 9RB
01622 831 681



Aims and Objectives:

Set up in September 2003, the group's aims to raise awareness of and celebrate Romany traditions as part of the cultural heritage of the South East of England by obtaining, conserving and exhibiting traditional wagons in various stages of restoration and exhibiting a range of memorabilia to schools and the general public. The group also aims to provide opportunities for education for citizenship, to maintain and pass on knowledge and skills and to develop links between Romany people and the broader community. The group was awarded a grant of £3,000 to purchase equipment and to help meet their basic running costs.

SPARC

**(Society for the Promotion and
Advancement of Romany Culture)**

Emily Clark
Ground Floor
Erimus House
4 Queens Square
Middlesborough
TS2 1AA
01642 243 453



Aims and Objectives:

A company limited by guarantee and set up in 2001, this group seeks to provide support and advice to the Gypsy and Travelling community and provide initiatives that seek to promote integration and cohesion between the Gyps and Travelling communities and the wider population. Following a three year grant from Comic Relief, the group was awarded a grant of £1,000 from the DIY Fund to help meet its basic running costs while it sought other funding.

St. Phillips Park Gypsy & Traveller Group

Claire Troman
16 Mains Court
Framwellgate Moor
Durham DH1 5EY
07764 490 261

Aims and Objectives:

Set up in June 2004, this site residents group aims to raise funds to be able to provide activities for the children, young people and families of the St. Phillips Park site. The group was awarded a grant of £2,860 under the DIY Fund to employ a play worker for the site.

The 3 Lakes Park Residents Association

c/o David Woodward / Gypsy & Traveller Unit
Kent County Council
Brenchley House,
123 Weeks Street
Maidstone
Kent ME14 1RF
01622 221 805

Aims and Objectives:

Set up in January 2006, this site residents association aims to improve community relations between the site and the settled community, to improve facilities for residents and to promote cultural diversity and knowledge of local Romany Gypsy culture, history and heritage. The group was awarded a grant of £2,000 under the DIY Fund to purchase a porta cabin to be used as a community centre for site meetings, kids activities and youth work.

The Trans-European Roma Federation

Grattan Puxton
1 John Harper Street
Colchester
CO11RP
01206 523 528

Aims and Objectives:

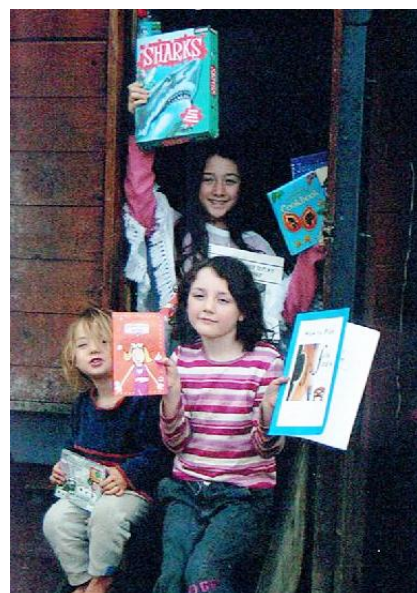
Set up in 2002, this group aims to advance and promote the representation, self-determination, recognition and status of Roma and the Roma Nation and to combat all forms of prejudice, discrimination and racism, to work with others who share this aim and in particular, through lobbying and any other appropriate activities to help improve the social well-being and political standing of Roma asylum seekers, refugees and Travelling groups. The group were awarded a grant of £2,500 from the DIY Fund to hold the Red Wheels Festival at the Dale Farm site to celebrate Roma Nation Day in 2006.

The Travellers School Charity

Kaye Angus
PO Box 2
Goodwick
Pembrokeshire
SA64 0ZQ
07717 055 378

Aims and Objectives:

Set up in 1988, this charity aims to improve the lives of children and young people, especially those whose parents or guardians are of a nomadic habit of life. Their mission is to be a Traveller led organisation, undertaking research, supplying educational advice, resources and activities that benefit Travellers, which empowers and involves Travellers in the education of children and young people. The group was awarded two grants from the DIY Fund totalling £4,000 to help meet their basic running costs.



The UK Association of Gypsy Women

Rachel Francis Ingham
PO Box 63
Darlington DL1 9AH
012125 463 809

Aims and Objectives:

Constituted in 1994, this group mission is to seek equality in accommodation, health-care, education and employment for Romany Gypsy women and their families to enable them to enjoy the same quality of life as the wider community within the UK. Following a three year grant from Comic Relief, the group was awarded £3,000 under the DIY Fund specifically to support volunteers working with their organisation.

THE TRAVELLERS AID TRUST

PO Box 16
Llangyndeyrn
Kidwelly
SA17 5YT

01269 870 621

info@travellersaidtrust.org

www.travellersaidtrust.org