

Irish Traveller Newsletter – September 2007

The Irish Travellers Movement seeks to raise the profile of Irish Travellers in Britain and increase their say in decision making processes and forums. The ITM seeks to challenge discrimination and develop national policies that ensure the inclusion of Irish Travellers in all levels of society.

The Irish Traveller Movement Present - A National Conference

‘Increasing Community Engagement and Social Inclusion for Travellers’

Key speakers – Lord Avebury and Julie Morgan MP

Date – 30th November 2007
9.30 - 4.45 pm
Venue London Resource Centre
Holloway Rd, London

For more information email/telephone
info@irishtraveller.org.uk
Tel 0207 607 2002

Traveller Involvement in Accommodation – Good Practice Guide

This guide is the product of almost 3 years of research on a national basis funded by the Department of Communities and Local Government. The good practice has been designed as a framework to assist key service providers, such as housing, to involve Irish Travellers and Gypsies in decision-making and planning through effective consultations and partnership work, in line with mainstream tenancy participation practice. Many of the recommendations based on general models of good practise in working with BME communities. The challenge for services is to lead this process fairly, creatively and with a full awareness of the barriers which have so often hampered working together in the past and which have contributed to the current context of frequent disengagement.

The guidance can be accessed at:

http://www.irishtraveller.org.uk/about_us/accommodation-good-practice-guide

Policy Work

The Irish Traveller Movement has been working with a number of other groups on the issue of Traveller economic inclusion – looking at how Travellers can receive help with their businesses , employment and training. Read our discussion paper and send us your ideas. The paper ‘Traveller Economic Inclusion’ can be accessed at:

<http://www.irishtraveller.org.uk/policy/policy-submissions>

London Cluster Meetings - Accommodation – Health – Education

'Clusters' contain boroughs which geographically border each other. Issues that will be discussed will include Accommodation Needs, Health, Education and other issue that affect Traveller communities in London. Cluster Meetings will also take place for representatives from Traveller communities and agencies who work directly with these communities.

Meetings are planned for September / October time on the subject of Accommodation. For more information contact Marie Griffin marie@irishtraveller.org.uk

The Jewish Museum and The Irish Traveller Movement in Britain Join Forces

The Jewish Museum, Camden is working in partnership with The Irish Traveller Movement in Britain in a new initiative to raise awareness and understanding of Irish Traveller culture in the UK and beyond and to highlight the similarities in the history and experience of different minority groups in Britain.

The project has been developed in conjunction with the Museum's current exhibition ***Ghetto Warriors – Minority Boxers in Britain***, which includes a profile of the Irish Traveller and British Bantamweight Champion **Martin Power**. Boxing has always been part of Traveller culture. Their participation in the sport started almost with its inception in the 18th century, and prevails until today

A special event was organised by the Jewish Museum and The Irish Traveller Movement in Britain on Tuesday 3 July 2007. Guests enjoyed a private view of the *Ghetto Warriors* exhibition with curator Ruti Ungar, followed by a screening of *Southpaw*. Among the guests were members of Sport England, Liberty, Department of Communities and Local Government, Traveller Chaplaincy, Cllr Phillip Thompson LB Camden, representatives from Irish Traveller Communities across London and service providers.

The Jewish Museum together with the Irish Traveller Movement in Britain is hoping to raise sufficient funds to enable this event to travel to various community venues. The exhibition closes in Camden in September 2007.

Ian Wright MP, Minister for Gypsies and Travellers

"The event run by the Irish Traveller Movement and Jewish Museum provides a fascinating insight into the challenges faced by sports people from ethnic minority backgrounds. This kind of exhibition has an important role to play in improving understanding between communities and I commend those involved for their excellent work."

Federation of Irish Societies (FIS) – Jenny Daly of the Irish Traveller Movement will be giving a presentation on involving Travellers in Accommodation Issues at the FIS **National Meeting** on the 22nd of September at the London Irish Centre.

Contact us

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