



Introduction

Welcome to the latest Roma Support Group e-bulletin. The main focus of this issue is the contrast between the wealth of material, opinion and analysis that's becoming increasingly available about the lives of Roma in the UK; and the inaction of the UK government. On the one hand, we have carefully researched reports about the exclusion of Roma pupils from English schools; or the experience of Roma people applying for disability benefits. This is complimented by the impressive documentation of Roma women and men's experience of living in the UK – captured by Supporting Roma Voices (now available on film too). And the National Roma Network extensive website.

On the other hand, we have the government signally failing to have more than a marginal mention of Roma (and Gypsy & Traveller) experience of the use of public services – apart from education – in their recently published Race Disparity Audit. And this disinterest or willing ignorance is affirmed by the European Commission's judgement that the UK government's policy "has not demonstrated sufficient impact on improving the situation of Roma".

For some of us, Roma are here visible, contributing and asserting their rights; for the government, it seems determined to deny Roma presence in our towns and cities.

This issue of the newsletter features:

- A major new report about the disproportionate use of exclusions of Roma pupils in English schools
- A new Roma Oral History project
- The range of difficulties Roma people have applying for disability benefits
- An RSG training event in London in January
- News from National Roma Network (NRN), including their national conference in London on 14 December; the NRN website info and link; and their recently published 'South Yorkshire reports'
- A multi-media toolkit for Roma parents – from Law for Life
- Commentary on the government's new Race Disparity Audit and the accompanying website – Ethnicity: Facts & Figures
- The latest assessment by the European Commission on the success of the UK government's policies to achieve greater Roma integration. Their conclusion is, "the mainstream approaches have not demonstrated sufficient impact on improving the situation of Roma."

- Three new books from the writer and publisher Bob Dawson
 - And finally, events surrounding a football match in Belfast.....
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RSG news

Fulfilling their potential: the exclusion of Roma pupils in the English educational system

The Roma Support Group has published a briefing paper last month which shows an alarming rise in the number of Gypsy/Roma pupils excluded from school. Gypsy/Roma pupils are now over five times more likely to be excluded from school than other pupils; and in the last two years since 2013/14, the rate of exclusion of Gypsy/Roma children has increased from 14% to 22% - compared to 4.0% to 4.3% for all pupils. However, this high rate of exclusion isn't common across England. Some cities with substantial numbers of Roma students (like Bradford and Newcastle) show very low rates of exclusion; whilst other cities and towns (like Rotherham and Sheffield) show very high levels of exclusion. In Rotherham, the Roma exclusion rate for 2015/16 was 119%; (419 Gypsy/Roma pupils on roll; 500 Gypsy/Roma facing a fixed term exclusion in 2015/16).

Many Roma families have come to the UK so that their children will get educational opportunities they are still denied in Eastern Europe; it is a tragedy that fulfilling their potential might not be possible due to exclusionary practices in schools.

The briefing paper explores what lies behind these findings. We find that few parents and students are able to exercise their right to appeal against exclusion, and where they do so, they or their advocates face hostility from the authorities. An increasing number of Roma students are facing permanent exclusion and are restricted to sub-standard 'alternative', off site provision.

We argue that this reflects the declining investment by schools and the government in specialist teachers and support staff; Traveller Education Service teams throughout England have been closed since the end of the ring-fenced grant in 2008 and subsequent austerity measures. Likewise, the particular cultural and historical experiences of Roma are often not fully appreciated by schools and their staff; understanding is limited and expectations can be low. The Department for Education had convened a regular group for considering issues facing Gypsy, Traveller and Roma students. Since January 2015, this stakeholder group has not met; its future remains, according to Nick Gibb (Minister of State, Education), either "under consideration" (14 Jan 2016) or "developing its plans" (4 Nov 2016).

The briefing paper recommends that this level of school exclusions should be the subject of discrete investigations, at both central government and in local cities and schools – with authorities working alongside Roma communities and advocates to identify if this is happening in your city, why it is happening and what can be done to break this spiral of decline.

The latest figures for the number of Gypsy/Roma pupils excluded from schools should lead to action.

Read the full report here:

<http://romasupportgroup.org.uk/?p=4994>

Training course on Working with Roma in a Safeguarding Context

Date: Thursday 25 January 2018

Time: 10am – 4pm

Location: Central London; full details will be sent to you on receipt of your booking

This is what a previous attendee had to say about the training:

“The trainers had a really good insight into the practical issues that Roma communities face in accessing services and solutions to effective partnership working, a must for any public organisation who wishes to reach out to under-served communities.”

How do I book?

If you want to attend this training it is essential to book.

Fill in our booking form available here and email it to us at rsep@romasupportgroup.org.uk.

Prices:

Commercial sector: £170

Public and Charity sector: £130

Small charities (maximum 5 paid staff): £100

Students: £80

<http://romasupportgroup.org.uk/?p=5029>

‘Roma Stories’ – Roma Oral History Project

The Heritage Lottery Fund has awarded £77,100 to the Roma Support Group for the Roma Oral History Project, which will work with Roma researchers, local community members, London Metropolitan Archives, museums and academic institutions to explore, archive and share the unrecorded stories of Roma refugees and migrants in London.

What is the heritage that our project will focus on?

The Project will focus on the unrecorded Oral History of Roma refugees and migrants from East/Central Europe living in London, exploring themes of displacement, sense of belonging and changing identities, including their adoption of their new homeland.

We will explore three main themes:

1. Roma Porrajmos and anti-Roma persecution. Focusing on individual memories of survivors, as well as memories enshrined within families/ clans' orally transmitted histories; exploring "remembering" and "forgetting" strategies often used as survival mechanisms within individual families; gathering individual memories of post-war experience of ethnocide (enforced settlement of Roma population in post-war Communist countries in 1960s), as well as individual survival routes during more recent (post-Communist) anti-Roma persecution and discrimination in Europe.
2. Migration and Changing Roma Identity. Exploring individual and collective experiences of the impact that recent migration from Eastern Europe has had on the changing and evolving Roma identities in Britain – capturing inter-generational perspectives.
3. A Sense of Belonging. Gathering individual memories and stories which portray a process of integration in the UK; examining "a sense of belonging" as understood and experienced by individual Roma refugees and migrants.

What will the Project do?

The Project will seek to promote the 'voices' of a group of people that has been often marginalised, 'hidden' or written out of mainstream history. By using the Oral History method, the Project will give the Roma community a rare opportunity to capture their knowledge and histories, which have been 'passed down' across generations, orally rather than in a written form, before it is lost.

It will involve multiple open-ended interviews, with an emphasis on how individuals themselves interpret, give meaning to and re-construct their lives, paying particular attention to how people's identities might have shifted and altered over time.

Two Roma Researchers will collect a minimum of 40 oral histories, which will be audio-recorded, transcribed, translated, analysed and extracts will be stored at the London Metropolitan Archives as well as in other London museums. In collaboration with our Project partners we will ensure the quality of the material, its accessibility, longevity, and sustainability.

The Project findings will also be shared and explained through a Digital Teachers' Resource Pack, produced in collaboration with local schools, which will be disseminated through the Project's website.

Why is it important:

Firstly, Roma have the lowest life expectancy in Britain, six years less than other socially excluded disadvantaged ethnic minority groups (Triennial Review, Equality and Human Rights Commission, 2010), so the need to capture the older generations' experience has become quite compelling.

Secondly, notwithstanding the overwhelmingly negative press coverage on the Roma 'problem', there is a lack of material written, recorded and produced by the Roma themselves, specifically with regards to their sense of identity, belonging, migration to Britain, settlement, contribution and integration in a new host society. It follows that almost all that has been written about Roma (including research) is from a non-Roma perspective and is often experienced as 'top-down' by members of the Roma community.

Finally, unlike any other ethnic minority groups, where considerable progress has been made in challenging racism and discrimination, the Roma still experience overt racism and discrimination within the UK and Europe (European Commission 2008). Therefore in the context of rising anti-Roma rhetoric (Romaphobia), it is key that Roma refugees and migrants are empowered to share and speak about their heritage now. This is with a view to gain a greater sense of belonging, challenge negative perceptions and prejudices, and help create a more cohesive and fairer society.

Partners:

We will be delivering this Project in partnership with:

- Department of History, Royal Holloway, University of London (Royal History Society)
- London Metropolitan Archives
- Tavistock Institute
- Holocaust Memorial Day Trust
- Hackney Learning Trust
- Shaftesbury Primary and Belmont Primary Schools, London Borough of Newham and London Borough of Hackney
- Birkbeck College & Institute of Education University of London
- Hackney Library
- Croydon Museum
- Redbridge Museum.

Volunteers:

We are looking for volunteers to help us with the implementation of this project. If you would like to volunteer, please see further information here.

http://romasupportgroup.org.uk/?page_id=93

Any further information, email tania@romasupportgroup.org.uk

Supporting Roma Voice – now in video

This report was produced just under a year ago; Roma Support Group was pleased to play an active part in contributing to it. Now there is a short video available about the report, with one of our own staff members, and co-author, playing a leading role..... Szymon says:

“I was asking two focus groups ‘why did people leave their countries of origin and come to the UK’? And there were three reasons. One was to escape the discrimination from their country of origin; two – better opportunities for their children; and three, for employment. And now, we are facing the possibility we may go back to the country – to the country that we didn’t like too much because we were persecuted....”

See it here.

http://www.salford.ac.uk/research/care/research-groups/shusu/projects-migration-and-integration/supporting-roma-voice/_nocache

If you haven't read the report yet – based on the testimony of 146 Roma women and men throughout the UK – read it here.

<http://usir.salford.ac.uk/44112/1/SRV-Final-Report-Dec-2016.pdf>

Submission to Parliament's Work & Pensions select committee about PIP and ESA

Executive Summary

Roma Support Group (RSG) service users highlight the following issues with the assessment process for disability benefits:

- Assessors subcontracted by DWP often lack specific expertise in the health problems that form the basis of Personal Independence Payment (PIP) and Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) claimants' applications for disability benefits.
- Assessment reports often differ substantially from the content of discussion during the face-to-face assessment.
- DWP decision makers' accounts disregard the full extent of claimants' health issues and do not take into account all medical documentation.
- Interpreting services offered to claimants who do not speak English as a first language are of low quality.
- Assessors express discriminatory attitudes towards claimants from Eastern Europe.

Based on these issues, our service users recommend the following changes to the PIP and ESA assessment system:

- Claimants should receive a copy of the assessor's report directly following assessment
- Assessments should be either video- or audio-recorded
- Assessors should have expertise in the relevant area of medicine for claimants' health problems

Read the full submission here:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/199gchGWwkmPTP3c3NgsujxiH3rXrxqq3/view>

For more information, contact Sarah Zawacki: sarah@romasupportgroup.org.uk

National Roma Network (NRN) next conference: 14 December 2017 in London

'Rights, Equalities and Future Roma Voices'

The Conference will take place on Thursday 14 December 2017 from 11am to 3pm in central London (venue will be confirmed following booking).

This event will provide an opportunity to reflect on, and discuss, key issues for Roma in the UK, consider the work of the National Roma Network Forum over the past two years and look forward to the future. We will look at priority policy and practice issues, explore challenges in upholding Roma rights in the UK, celebrate the collective achievements of the Network and examine what the future might hold for Roma communities in the UK.

The event will include panel discussions, Q&As and keynote addresses from Roma advocates, organisations working with Roma, key figures from the National Roma Network and other national policy areas.

To book a place at the Conference, please e-mail admin@migrationyorkshire.org.uk with the following information by 12noon on Thursday 30 November 2017:

Delegate Name:

Organisation:

E-mail Address:

Dietary/Access Requirements:

(We will do our best to accommodate these, but unfortunately requests cannot be guaranteed)

Please note that places are limited, so please book early to avoid disappointment!

There is some funding available to reimburse travel costs for migrant Roma delegates. If you would like to make a claim under this policy, please mention this when you book and further information will be sent to you.

[National Roma Network and Migration Yorkshire](#)

The National Roma Network website is now up and running. There's a wide range of information available here, the records of the recent National Forum meetings and presentations, as well as contacts with Roma-led and supporting Roma voluntary and community agencies. Take a look:

<https://nationalromanetwork.wordpress.com/>

["South Yorkshire Roma reports" from Migration Yorkshire](#)

Belatedly, we are highlighting a massive range of information gathered by Migration Yorkshire in 2016, and published earlier this year. The task was to survey the range and make-up of the Roma communities within South Yorkshire (Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield), by talking to over 150 Roma women, men and younger people. The work also consisted of talking to the range of other services and agencies that are responding – with varying degrees of success – to the emerging

Roma presence. About half the information is based on a statistical analysis of public and voluntary services; and the other half, is the testimony recorded of Roma people's views and experiences of living in South Yorkshire:

The project developed nine key recommendations for working with Roma communities in South Yorkshire, grounded in the consultation and discussions held during this project:

1. Prioritise employment interventions
2. Use interventions with young people to engage with other family members
3. Aim to encourage mixing or interaction between communities
4. Aim to empower Roma communities as a project outcome
5. Use locations that are already trusted by Roma communities
6. Support (statutory) staff to gain more knowledge, understanding and confidence to work with Roma service users and to communicate with them effectively
7. Think through any relevant conundrums that affect local services (as discussed in the project reports)
8. Share practice knowledge among services in relation to Roma residents.
9. Tailor new work for the local context.

Well worth looking at!

<http://www.migrationyorkshire.org.uk/romareports>

This work has been supported by a grant from Big Lottery.

Multimedia Toolkit for Roma Parents – legal framework for child protection; from Law for Life

Law for Life's new project aims to address a significant need for knowledge and understanding about the legal framework of child protection amongst Roma parents living in the UK. Our motivation to do this project stems from a substantial increase in numbers of Roma children in the UK care system in the last five years. The project is funded by the Tudor Trust.

[Law for Life: the Foundation for Public Legal Education](#) is an education and information charity that aims to increase access to justice by providing everyone with an awareness of their legal rights together with the confidence and skills to assert them. We run the multi- award winning legal information service [Advicenow](#).

What will they do?

They will develop a multimedia toolkit explaining the legal framework of child protection. The toolkit will comprise of an information guide and short films illustrating key elements of the legal framework and the skills needed to fully comply with the child protection requirements. The films will be narrated by Roma community members in their native language. They will then deliver three community training sessions for Roma community members: in London, Rotherham and Derby.

Who will they work with?

They will work with three Roma organisations: [Roma Support Group](#) (London), [Clifton Learning Partnership](#) (Rotherham) and [Roma Community Care](#) (Derby). The Roma community will be involved in all stages of the project delivery including: consultation about the community's concerns and understanding in regards to child protection, involvement in the design of information resources and short films, and delivery of training.

Their aim is that this resource will also be used by children's services in order to help them make the legal frameworks more accessible and engage more effectively with Roma families. Therefore, they will involve key local authorities in order to better understand their concerns and challenges in engaging with Roma families.

Finally, they will consult key social work academics, Gypsy/Roma/Traveller experts, policy makers and legal professionals.

Timeframe

The project will start in November 2017 and we expect to complete it by November 2018.

They are keen to involve as many organisations and professionals involved in supporting Roma families in this context as possible. Therefore, if you would like to share your experiences, knowledge, concerns, etc. they would be delighted to hear from you.

For further inquiries about this project, please contact Dada Felja:

dada.felja@lawforlife.org.uk

Race Disparity Audit, Cabinet Office

Little on Roma – does that mean Roma don't exist?

Theresa May, the UK prime minister, said when she became prime minister:

It means we believe in a union not just between the nations of the United Kingdom but between all of our citizens - every one of us - whoever we are and wherever we're from. That means fighting against the burning injustice that if you're born poor you will die on average nine years earlier than others. If you're black you are treated more harshly by the criminal justice system than if you're white. If you're a white working-class boy you're less likely than anybody else in Britain to go to university.....The government I lead will be driven, not by the interests of the privileged few but by yours.

The recently published, clumsily titled, the Race Disparity Audit came out of this speech. And an accompanying website called Ethnicity: Facts and Figures is also available on-line.

So what does this say about one of the longest established minority ethnic communities in Britain – Gypsy and Travellers? And what does it say about one of the newest and quickest growing ethnic minority populations – Roma?

The answer? Not a lot. There are six sections of data; only one of them refers at all to Roma. Roma are presumably invisible to those government departments responsible for justice, for housing or for health. And within the education sections, there is nothing at all published about early years provision – or universities. And every reference to Roma is in relation to Gypsy/Roma children young people. (We don't need to emphasise how for many Roma from Central/East Europe, the use of the term 'Gypsy' - or Cygan/Cyganka - is understood as an insult).

But even more worrying is the similar marginalisation of (English) Gypsy and (Irish) Travellers – as adults and as children. The website includes 120 detailed statistical tables – 98 if you exclude the education datasets which, as we know, include both Irish Traveller and Gypsy/Roma children and young people. But out of those 98 datasets, only 7 contain usable information about Gypsy and Traveller use of public services. The government appears to want to maintain a fiction that Roma people don't live in the UK.

Report is available here.

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/650723/RDAweb.pdf

Click here for the website - Ethnicity: Facts and Figures

<https://www.ethnicity-facts-figures.service.gov.uk/>

The Roma Support Group is making a submission to the Women's & Equality select committee about our concerns of this government exercise. The closing date for comments to the select committee is Monday 27 November 2017.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/women-and-equalities-committee/inquiries/parliament-2017/race-disparity-audit-17-19/>

European Commission assessment of NRIS: and member states assessments (2017)

Since the European Union agreed in 2011 that all countries ("member states") should make plans to ensure Roma have equal rights to all other citizens, and that Roma integration should be an ambition throughout Europe, the European Commission has made regular assessments of how successfully this is happening. Their 2017 judgement is available here.

http://ec.europa.eu/justice/discrimination/files/roma-report-2016_en.pdf

They have also carried out an assessment of how each country has done. This is the UK assessment; the findings are quite damning;

"The mainstream approaches have not demonstrated sufficient impact on improving the situation of Roma."

HORIZONTAL MEASURES	
KEY ELEMENTS	ASSESSMENT
FIGHTING DISCRIMINATION AND ANTI-GYPSYISM, PROTECTION OF ROMA CHILDREN AND WOMEN.	

Mainstream measures preventing discrimination, including fighting hate crime (England, Wales), protecting Roma women and children addressed under Women' empowerment fund. Teaching materials, guides promoting inter-cultural dialogue and understanding. Involvement of the National Federation of Gypsy Liaison Groups (representatives of Gypsy, Traveller and Roma organisations) in the consultation process with Government departments (England). Increasing number of civil society organisations (Leeds, Glasgow, Derby, Luton, Manchester, Sheffield, East Anglia) developing Roma advocacy, mediation, community engagement and policy development.	Ensuring equality and non-discriminatory practices by service providers remain challenge to be addressed. Activities aimed at fighting stereotyping media coverage, prejudices against Roma and combating anti-Roma rhetoric and hate speech should be taken. To this end, the public authorities and representatives of Roma communities should work together. Multiple disadvantages faced by Roma women and Roma children need more specific measures. Awareness raising training and information on human rights should be provided.
POVERTY REDUCTION	
• No measures are reported.	
POLICY AREAS	
KEY ELEMENTS	ASSESSMENT
EDUCATION	
Free school lunches (Pupil Premium, England), control activities by Ofsted, School Inspection (England), measures fighting all forms of bullying (England, Wales), toolkit provided to teachers working with Roma, curriculum materials for use in secondary schools on cultural awareness and understanding of Gypsies and Travellers (Wales), 100 cross-community Summer Camps programme (Northern Ireland).	More targeted support should be followed when addressing the low attendance and poor attainment of Roma pupils. The local authorities and the academies (schools) responsible for educational outcomes of pupils should work in coordinated way and ensure that these children have access to the mainstream measures.
EMPLOYMENT	
Mainstream measures aiming at increasing ethnic minority employment and participation in the labour market	A targeted approach to ensure access to and increase participation of Roma to employment mainstream measures is needed in addition to helping them avoid falling into dangerous and exploitative work conditions within the informal economy. The opportunities under the ESF funding to support local employment programmes, and for which Roma can also benefit from, should be further explored
HEALTHCARE	
Mainstream and targeted measures, including various publications/guides (England, Wales, Scotland), cultural awareness advice to healthcare practitioners (Wales), assessment reports on health needs of Gypsies and Travellers by Local Health Boards and Clinics (Wales), Employment of Traveller and Roma Community Health Workers (Northern Ireland)	Greater focus on tackling the health inequalities of Roma is needed. The health needs' assessment should be carried out throughout the UK. Further targeted measures to improve the Roma health status should be considered with a special attention to women and children. Communities' participation in health and social care initiatives should be scaled up. The cultural awareness competency measures for health staff should be provided throughout the UK.
HOUSING	

<p>Planning Policy for Traveller Sites, presenting new concept of defining Travellers for planning sites purposes, statutory duty for local authorities to assess accommodation needs and provide Traveller sites where there is a need and support for the development of new sites (England, Wales); Mainstream programme supporting affordable homes, providing for the Traveller Pitch Funding (England); Gypsy and Traveller Sites Capital Grant and Caravan Count System (Wales) Site provision for Gypsy/Travellers (Scotland).</p>	<p>The lack of authorised sites still remains a challenge to be addressed. Within the local planning approach, the involvement and close cooperation with representatives of Roma and social services should be strengthened. Planning policies and decisions should be carefully assessed in order to eliminate discriminatory practices and advance equality</p>
STRUCTURAL MEASURES	
KEY ELEMENTS	ASSESSMENT
COOPERATION AND COORDINATION (National Roma Contact Point - NRCP, civil and local actors, equality bodies, transnational cooperation)	
<p>Involvement of the NRCP (based in DCLG) in co-ordination of the relevant Government Departments' reports, in supporting the work of the Ministerial Working Group on preventing and tackling inequalities experienced by Gypsies and Travellers as well as in facilitating the work of the National Federation of Gypsy Liaison Groups. The NRCP also financially supports the integration projects (e.g. City of Sheffield). Transnational cooperation of city of Glasgow with cities in Slovakia and Romania. No measures are reported on the cooperation with the UK Equality body.</p>	<p>Strengthening further the capacity building of Roma and their involvement in design, implementation and monitoring of policies relevant to them is essential. The co-operation with Equality body should be established. The outcomes of the Equality Body reports should be well reflected in design of relevant policies.</p>
MONITORING	
<p>No measures are reported, although there are assessment reports and data available, in particular in the areas of education and health.</p>	<p>Measuring the impact of mainstream measures on the situation of Roma, should be put in place. The outcomes of the assessment reports should be well reflected in policy design and implementation.</p>
FUNDING	
<p>In the 2014-2020 period of total of €1.3bn (€51m ERDF, €1.1bn ESF and €123m EAFRD) has been allocated to promoting social inclusion, combating poverty and any discrimination, targeting action to the socially disadvantaged (including, but not limited to Roma)</p>	<p>Existing possibilities under the ESIF funds for targeted measures to support inclusion Roma should be further exploited and effectively implemented.</p>
SUMMARY OF KEY FINDINGS	
<p>The mainstream approaches have not demonstrated sufficient impact on improving the situation of Roma. Targeted measures could be further exploited by also using the existing possibilities under the ESIF funds. Scaling up the existing initiatives implemented throughout the UK should also be explored. Cooperation between national and local authorities needs to be addressed, as well as the involvement of Roma in the design, implementation and monitoring of relevant measures. Evidence gathering should also be developed to enable the assessment of the impact of the measures.</p>	

Bob Dawson – three new books

Bob describes himself:

“I have spent over 50 years researching and writing about Britain's Traditional Travellers - Gypsies (Romanies), Scottish Travellers and Irish Travellers and have written over 50 books and booklets about their History, Language, Way of Life, Traditions, Culture, Folk Lore and Families.” He is a writer, a researcher, a publisher and a committed supporter of “Roma Rights”. He has three new books out that we want to publicise:

1. **British Gypsy and Traveller History Through Art to 1900.** Descriptions of over 600 pre 1900 British paintings/drawings/prints, and analysis of what they prove about British GT history. [A4, 160](#) black & white illustrations including 15 identified Gypsy Travellers, 170 pages, 11 tables, 8 appendices. Many surprises. Sections on carts tents and wagons, costume, law, animals, travel, occupations, travel and numbers, camps, equipment etc, indications of area of country being illustrated and much much more. Not available through bookshops.
2. **Tuesday Wednesday Quake Day.** Young adult novel about life on a site, the dangers and fracking. Traveller boy Blotch is drawn into a race against time to find his missing sister. From author (signed) or publisher or any good bookshop.
3. **Leaves in a Holocaust Wind.** Teen novel about 2 teenagers who survive the Romani Holocaust of World War 2. Based on real incidents throughout. Important that people know what happened.

Visit Bob’s website here.

<http://www.robertdawson.co.uk/>

And finally.....

How can a football game in Belfast - involving Switzerland and Northern Ireland – manage to remind the world about the extent of ‘Romaphobia’? Read this:

<http://www.independent.co.uk/sport/football/international/northern-ireland-corry-evans-switzerland-apologises-wife-referee-romanian-gypsy-penalty-decision-a8048281.html>

Views expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily suggest that they are in accordance with the trustees of the Roma Support Group.

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