

To reserve a place on:
**Gypsies and Travellers: A Community outside
a Community**

Please return your completed booking form
(overleaf) to ensure your place to:

Beth Harper
The Mirfield Centre
College of the Resurrection
Stocks Bank Road
Mirfield
WF14 0BW
Tel: 01924 481920
email: bharper@mirfield.org.uk

Bookings must be accompanied by payment.
Please make cheques payable to **The Mirfield Centre.**
You may also pay over the phone using a credit or
debit card. Please book by Friday 14th September
2019

Please feel free to photocopy this form as many
times as you wish and distribute it to friends
and colleagues.

We look forward to welcoming you to
The Mirfield Centre.

Please note: If you would like a paper
receipt for your booking, please **enclose a
stamped addressed envelope.** If you provide
an email address we will confirm your booking
on receipt. We will contact you approximately
one week before the event, when you will
receive a reminder of the date and time, as well
as any other relevant information.

About the course leader:

Robert Dawson ("Bob") became involved with
Romanies and other Travellers at the age of 11
and 63 years later is still.

Though not of Traveller origin himself, he is Hon
President of Britain's largest Gypsy Traveller (GT)
organisation and an Honorable member and
adviser to several more. He has campaigned all
his life to improve the lot and understanding of
GTs.

He has written over 80 books and specialist
papers and was instrumental in bringing in
culture specific books for Traveller children into
schools. He has discovered and mapped lost GT
wayside burials, researched child mortality,
highlighted the hardly known British Gypsy
slavery, recorded samples of language of Romani,
Pavee Cant and Nawken Cant and numerous folk
tales as well as locating and publishing photos of
the little known Holocaust of Europe's Gypsy
population by the Nazis. He is currently working
on a book to prove, once and for all, the massive
extent and reasons for this genocide.

A few years ago, the GT Community presented
him with a Lifetime Award for all his voluntary
work with the community.

www.mirfield.org.uk

 @MirfieldCentre



**MIRFIELD
CENTRE**



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CENTRE**

**Gypsies and
Travellers**



**A Community outside a
Community**

Saturday 22nd September 2018

Robert Dawson

(Hon President of Britain's largest Gypsy Traveller
organisation)

£22.00

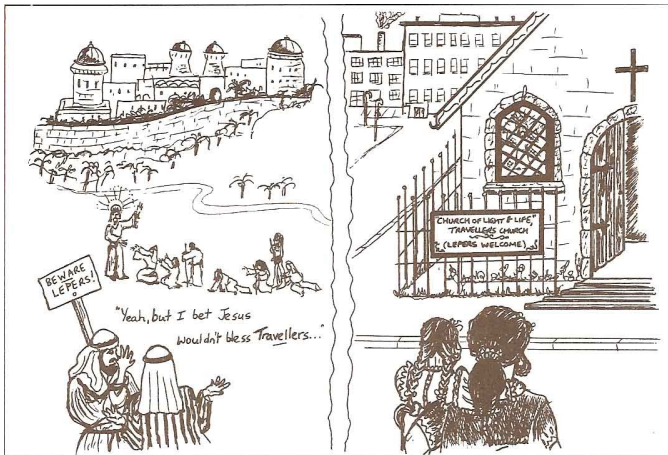
(including lunch and refreshments)

10.00am-3.30pm

About the Day

There are at least 300,000 Gypsies and Travellers in Britain (not counting the Roma) though the overwhelming majority never these days travel. Even so, their access to education and health services is poor.

Though often struggling financially, they can be subjected to violence and protection rackets by organized crime.



Yet our perceptions of them are often clouded by misleading (and sometimes downright dishonest) reports in the newspapers and on TV and they are regarded as pariahs, modern day lepers. Even the Church has at times added to their persecution and few Church people are willing to get involved in a cause seen as somehow 'not quite nice'.

This day course aims to explain and educate.

Programme

- 9.45am Arrivals
- 10.00am Welcome
- 10.05am Our stereotypes and prejudices
(What we think is true may not be)
- 11.00am Refreshment Break
- 11.15am Definitions and Background
(Who are the various Gypsies and Travellers (GTs)?)
- 12.10pm Eucharist (optional)
- 1.00pm Lunch
- 1.45pm Health, Education, Welfare
(Poor health, massive illiteracy, victims)
- 2.30pm Saints, Priests and Wannabee Revs.
(The need for religious leadership and support)
- 3.00pm Questions and answers.
(Your chance to ask anything)

Please note: Times are approximate and may be subject to change.

Booking Form

Gypsies and Travellers: A Community outside a
Community
Fee £22.00

I wish to book place(s)

Name:.....

(Mr/Mrs/Ms/Rev/Dr/other)

Address:.....

.....Post Code.....

Tel. No:.....

Email:.....

Email confirmation required?

We cater for most dietary requirements, please indicate below if required

If you have any medical or access requirements need to be made aware of please indicate below:

I am a Reader/Lay Pastoral Minister in the
Diocese of Leeds (please tick)

My church denomination is

I found out about this event from

(If this will be your first time coming to a Mirfield
Centre event, please tick)