

Video transcript:

Susan: Gypsy Roma Traveller Month June 2025

00:00

My name is Susan and I used to stay in a caravan, a Gypsy caravan with my mum and dad, with another, five sisters and three brothers.

00:14

I was born in London and at first down in Blackpool in a wagon, a Gypsy caravan. Of course because I was so young I wouldn't have known much about that.

00:29

We lived up and travelled around London and all that, and mum and dad decided to come down round, I think it was Somerset, Bridgwater way.

00:42

That's where we lived down around that way for a long time and then mum and dad decided to come back up around Bournemouth way.

00:56

Then we got on the common. We lived upon the common for a long time.

01:03

Then they moved us from the site into the houses. Which I went right off my head then because I knew we was in a prison.

01:15

We was gonna be in a prison and I still don't like it from this day to that. It's just like you're put into prison and all the younger ones, my children, do not like it neither.

01:27

They wish they was free and had a free life like I did and that like, if you know what I mean.

01:32

It was a good life. We used to do our food outside round the fire, sleeping in the Gypsy caravan.

01:45

We loved it and we never had no problems and was free. But now we've been put into the houses. It's like you're put into prisons instead.

01:49

Being with my young kids, being around them and seeing them and that, my sisters and brothers, I can't use a phone. I don't know how to make a phone call.

02:03

It is difficult for me really because I feel like I'm not being helped, if you know what I mean.

02:17

I'm still staying in the same condition and it's hard for me to not to know the way to use a phone.

02:23

I've not been brought up to phones and things, you know what I mean.

02:27

We've talked from mouth to mouth and that was my culture, if you know what I mean, that was what I was brought up with.

02:32

But it's hard, really hard for me to get around places and that, or to make phone calls.
