

## **National Group Award Winner**

### **Kushti Bok, Dorchester**

Group member – I never got the chance to go to school because we were always being evicted. I'm now qualified and registered as a child minder.

Ken Onions (Kushti Bok at Kingston Maurward College) – The Matchmaking Project provided education and training for over 100 gypsies and travellers in the area.

Group member – We opened the awareness to our MP.

Ken Onions (Kushti Bok at Kingston Maurward College) – Khusti Bok was formed because we needed someone to be the link between the college and the gypsy and traveller communities.

Group member – We've sort of like evolved into a bridge between our world and main society.

Ken Onions (Kushti Bok at Kingston Maurward College) - Kushti Bok incidentally means good luck in Romany, it's a voluntary group of gypsies and travellers.

Group member – One of the main educational processes that we have had to deal with is educating other people about where we are coming from because that helps dissolve those boundaries.

Ken Onions (Kushti Bok at Kingston Maurward College) – Individual members have been having all sorts of training including I.T, including meetings protocol.

Group member – We've done diversity training with the Police, ambulance, fire services and things like that.

Group member – I totally understand that they've never really had this opportunity to get willing gypsies and travellers together to talk to them about what it's like.

Group member - It always amazes me that people are so amazed that we're just human beings really, you know.