

Famous Travellers in Popular Culture



Charlie Chaplin

- Iconic Hollywood film star.
- Made his first stage appearance at the age of five.
- Became world famous for his slapstick comedy in the early silent films.
- As well as acting, he also wrote, directed, produced, edited and composed the music for most of his films.
- His mother was a Traveller and he is believed to have been born on a Romany Gypsy site near Birmingham.

Robert Plant – musician, lead singer of Led Zeppelin

- Romani mother

Tracey Emin – artist

- Mother was of Romanichal descent

Michael Caine – actor

- Traveller heritage



JohnBoy Smith

- Wheelchair racer.
- Won a silver medal in the T54 wheelchair marathon at the 2018 Commonwealth Games.
- Previously ranked number one in the world as a seated Javelin thrower.
- Paralysed at the age of 16 in a tragic accident.
- Romany Gypsy heritage.

John Joe Nevin – boxer, silver medal at 2012 Olympics

- Irish Traveller

Ronnie Wood – musician, guitarist in The Rolling Stones

- Raised in Bargee community

Jesus Navas – footballer (Sevilla and Spain, previously Man City)

- Romani heritage

Shane Ward

- Singer and actor.
- Winner of the second series of X Factor.
- Sold millions of records worldwide, including a Number 1 album and a Christmas Number 1 single.
- Became an actor and won awards for his role in Coronation Street.
- Irish Traveller heritage.



Gerd Muller – retired German footballer (World Cup winner, multiple goal-scoring records)

- Romani heritage

Bob Hoskins – actor

- Romani heritage

David Essex – musician, singer

- Roma Gypsy heritage