

- **EXAMPLE OF ARTICLE PROPOSAL SUMMARY** -

**Title:** The Last of the Gypsy Royals

**Word count:** a 1200 word feature article

**Introduction:**

It is rumoured that Bill Clinton is one of their descendents, but the Travellers of Yetholm on the Scottish border have more than an American president to their name. Fiona Veitch Smith looks back on the lineage of one of Britain's less-known royal families.

**Outline:**

- Brief history of the Romany of the British Isles – where did they come from?  
Where did they settle?
- Persecution of the 'gypsies' and their alleged brigandry
- Brief outline of the Romany clans who criss-crossed the Scottish / English border and why Yetholm was seen as a safe haven from the authorities.
- The gypsy royal family and the historical foundation for their claims.
- The Bill Clinton connection.
- Eye witness accounts of Queen Esther holding court at the Gypsy Palace (which can still be visited in Yetholm).
- The decline of the royal family.
- Yetholm as a tourist spot today.

**Fact boxes:**

**1. What's in a name?**

Some of the better-known Yetholm gypsy surnames and tips on how to trace them.

**2. Travel guide**

- The Pennine Way
- St Cuthbert's Way
- Staying in Yetholm

**Images:**

I have access to 300 dpi scans of original photographs of the royal family 1870 – 1898. I also have digital photographs of the village and surrounding countryside.

**For more information contact:**

[your name, address and contact details here]