

**I PACKED  
THIS MYSELF  
EDUCATION PACK**



# I PACKED THIS MYSELF EDUCATION PACK

## AN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCE PACK

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## INTRODUCTION

This **Education Pack** throws a spotlight on the lives and experience of migrant workers in Cornwall. It aims to encourage understanding about the issues that they face and the lives that they lead.

Too often a lack of understanding leads to migrant workers experiencing prejudice and isolation.

The photographs in this pack, the travelling suitcases that accompany it and the activities it suggests, all aim to overcome this and bring about acceptance and increased tolerance. They also give an idea of how an ethnically diverse society can be enriching for us all. This pack can be used by secondary school teachers or the leaders of youth, faith or community groups. There are many links with the National Curriculum Programme of Activities on citizenship (see page 5).

This resource raises issues around the challenges of being a responsible member of society, the need to welcome the stranger and accept different cultures and attitudes.

## RESOURCES IN THE PACK

This pack can be used on its own or with the following resources, which can be ordered from Bridging Arts.

- DVD with a full set of images by Tom Pilston of agricultural workers in west Cornwall and Portuguese workers
- Travelling suitcases from Eastern Europe and from Portugal
- **Short Stories from the Edge**, an eight minute film of interviews with migrant workers and local people.

## WHERE IS THIS PACK FROM?

This resource has been produced by Bridging Arts as part of the **Let's Talk** project, launched in Cornwall in spring 2007. **Let's Talk** was originally run with the West Cornwall Faith Forum and encouraged people – particularly churches in the heart of communities – to open their doors to migrant workers. The suitcases are part of a travelling exhibition called **I Packed This Myself**. They contain objects brought by the workers on their journey to this country.

The Local Network Fund, administered by Cornwall Community Foundation, has provided funding for this pack and the Portuguese-themed suitcase.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Many people have helped in facilitating photography and providing interviews. Bridging Arts would like to thank Andrew Yates and the Diocese of Truro, Tulip Ltd, Ewa Toms, Rita Rucinskiene, Stella Lemezhan, St Ives Roche Ltd, Andrew Ormerod, Juliet Rose and the Eden Project, Rob Stacey, Ed Jenkin, Mark Body, David and Edita Jenkin, Damian Wyatt, Jeremy Harris, Ginny Harrison-White, Ria Taylor, Paulo Albino, Sophie Maura and family, Joaquim Marques and Susana Lourenco, Jose Aguiar, Marek Kazmierski, Bartek Dziadosz, Rachel Eddy, Jonathan and Lynn Roberts, David Cross, Andrew Dobbie, Kemal Ahson and Lifeworld Ltd.

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION FOR GROUP LEADERS

A session using this **Education Pack** will last about an hour and a half. The group should have pencils and paper at hand for simple exercises. At the end of the pack are suggestions as to how this work might be taken forward.

## LINKS TO THE NATIONAL CURRICULUM

This pack has many links with the national curriculum. Besides Citizenship, it also touches on:

- **Economics** – agricultural production and how it is driven by consumer demand and the reasons for migration
- **Geography** – migrant workers' countries of origin
- **Art and Design Technology** – drawing or creating suitcases
- **History** – Cornish migration and the history of the workers' countries of origin.

## USEFUL BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND WEBSITES

Research into the issues affecting migrant workers in Cornwall by LINC (Local Intelligence Network Cornwall)	<a href="http://www.cornwallstatistics.org.uk">www.cornwallstatistics.org.uk</a>
<b>Welcome Pack for migrant workers</b> Produced by Cornwall County Council	<a href="http://www.cornwallstrategicpartnership.gov.uk">www.cornwallstrategicpartnership.gov.uk</a>
<b>The Dynamics of Migrant Labour in South Lincolnshire</b> by Drasute Zaronaitė and Alona Tirzite	<a href="http://www.migrantworker.co.uk">www.migrantworker.co.uk</a>
<b>A Rough Guide to the UK Farming Crisis</b>	<a href="http://www.corporatewatch.org.uk">www.corporatewatch.org.uk</a>
<b>Supporting migrant workers in rural areas</b> – Citizens Advice Bureau	<a href="http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk">www.citizensadvice.org.uk</a>
<b>A8 migrant workers in rural areas</b> – Briefing paper by the Commission for Rural Communities	<a href="http://www.ruralcommunities.gov.uk/publications/migrantworkersinruralareas">www.ruralcommunities.gov.uk/publications/migrantworkersinruralareas</a>
Examples of good practice: from the Commission for Rural Communities	<a href="http://www.ruralcommunities.gov.uk/projects/migrantworkers/overview">www.ruralcommunities.gov.uk/projects/migrantworkers/overview</a>
<b>Let's Talk</b> – Evaluation by Bridging Arts (May 2007)	<a href="http://www.bridging-arts.com/news/lets-talk-evaluation">www.bridging-arts.com/news/lets-talk-evaluation</a>

## NOTE TO GROUP LEADERS

The text on pages 4-11 plus a full set of photographs are available on the DVD that accompanies this pack.





Tom Pilston/Bridging Arts

## I PACKED THIS MYSELF

What does it mean to be a responsible human being? As John Donne, Dean of St Paul's Cathedral, very famously said nearly 500 years ago: "No man is an island". We all live side by side with others.

Normally we do this peacefully, accepting others and understanding their points of view.

But sometimes we are challenged by the outsider. Strangers arrive in our midst. They are people on journeys for many different reasons – sometimes to earn money to take home, sometimes seeking to create a better life in a new country. If we have no contact with these strangers, misunderstandings and resentment can arise. If the strangers have no contact with us, they can start to feel lonely, isolated and resentful, too.

In Cornwall, people from overseas now play a very important part in everyday life. Hundreds of people come from Poland, Lithuania, Bulgaria and Romania to pick flowers and harvest crops. In the meat processing industry in Cornwall, the vast majority of workers are from overseas.

These workers are prepared to do hard, manual labour that local people often do not want to do. They ensure that industrial production remains on target, crops are harvested on time and suppliers' demands are met. Because of them, food arrives on shop shelves.

Yet they can face problems in the new life they have chosen. Sometimes they don't speak English well. Sometimes they face hostility from local people. They can find that they are isolated from the everyday lives of local people.

They are strangers in a foreign land. Any of us – at some point in our lives – might find ourselves in a similar situation.

**I Packed This Myself** asks the question: how does it feel to be a stranger abroad? What pressures do migrant workers face? What cultural and familial touchstones have they left behind?

It also asks another, very important, question. Do we have a duty as human beings to reach out to the stranger by our side?

## MIGRANT WORKERS IN WEST CORNWALL

### Photography by Tom Pilston

In west Cornwall during the winter farmers grow cauliflowers, spring greens and daffodils. Because of warmer temperatures in the county, they traditionally have had an advantage over growers further north. Crops come in early and get to the shelves first.



Cutting  
cauliflowers  
near Hayle

Tom Pilston/Bridging Arts

Since farming methods have become more industrial, very large quantities are now produced. Many growers have contracts with the large supermarkets. But this kind of farming means working with big business – with big business attitudes and big business deadlines. Crops have to be harvested efficiently and on time, ready to be transported off to the shop shelves.

Years ago, farmers used to employ workers locally to do this work. However, since production has risen sharply and deadlines become more demanding, they have been unable to find a large enough workforce locally. Many of the large farmers now employ directly from overseas. Smaller farmers contract workers from gangmasters.



**Daffodil picking  
in Breage**



Tom Pilston/Bridging Arts

One daffodil grower in west Cornwall employs several hundred workers from eastern Europe every winter. He finds it impossible to find as large, as reliable and as hardworking a workforce locally. The workers pick millions of bunches of flowers during the season.

Spring greens, cauliflowers and potatoes are also harvested by migrant workers. The crop is harvested from the field and put directly in plastic bags, ready for supermarket shelves.



Tom Pilston/Bridging Arts





**Boris, a university student from Bulgaria, has come to Cornwall for the second year running. With the money he earns, he will go home to extend the house he is building.**

In west Cornwall, most of the migrant workers on the land come from eastern Europe. The vast majority come for economic reasons. They need and want to earn money and can earn more money, quicker, here than at home. They are often vastly over qualified for the work they are doing.

Many have degrees from universities in their own countries. Workers employed by a flower farm near Camborne have included vets, agricultural students, engineers and a Romanian Under 21 rugby international.

Work in the fields is hard, particularly when the weather is cold. Many of the workers are housed in caravans on farms. Others share houses in towns in growing areas like Penzance or Hayle.

Some of the workers will stay in Cornwall. Others will return home once they have earned enough money to achieve their goals back home.

## THE PORTUGUESE COMMUNITY IN CORNWALL

**Photography by Tom Pilston**

In the meat processing industry, the vast majority of workers are from overseas. Most of these workers live in central Cornwall and many are Portuguese.

There are an estimated 3,000 Portuguese workers living in mid Cornwall. Many have come with their families and most work in local factories.

**Joaquim comes from Montijo, across the river from the capital, Lisbon. Montijo was a key industrial area when Portugal was a dictatorship. But after the country's industrial base collapsed at the end of the last century, it became desperately poor and faced all the problems usually created by poverty such as drugs and crime.**

**Joaquim came with his family to Cornwall to earn money to create a better life. His son, Paulo, was born in Cornwall. He always wears a crucifix. Portugal is a strongly Catholic country.**



Tom Pilston/Bridging Arts



Tom Pilston/Bridging Arts



For the Portuguese, family is important. Many workers come to Cornwall to join other family members already here. Once here, they socialise together and support each other.



Tom Pilston/Bridging Arts

Susana works shifts in local factories. Had she stayed in Portugal, she would have worked picking grapes and working on farms easily accessible from Montijo. Portugal remains a predominantly agricultural country.

Though life can be tough in Cornwall, Susana believes that it is better than it would be in Portugal. But she does miss her father. After he and her mother divorced, she lived with him. They tend not to speak on the telephone, she says, because they both start crying.

The other difficulty is language. Susana says that the other time that she feels far from home is when she goes to see doctors with her children and she cannot explain well enough what is wrong with them.

Susana and Joaquim's oldest daughters attend the local primary school. They were born in Portugal but speak fluent English.



Tom Pilston/Bridging Arts





Tom Pilston/Bridging Arts

Many Portuguese who come to Cornwall bring satellite dishes from home so that they can listen to Portuguese and Brazilian TV. Eduardo spent 30 years of his working life in a suburb of Paris, then returned to Portugal with a dream of opening his own electrical goods and computer business. This did not work out. The hours were too long and profits proved elusive.

The family is happy and intend to stay.

“For me, Cornwall is paradise,” says Eduardo. “Apart from the rain.”

Most of the Portuguese in Cornwall work at local meat processing factories which supply ham and bacon as well as other cooked and uncooked meat products to major supermarkets, the Ministry of Defence and MacDonald’s.

**Tania has been in Cornwall for four years. She came after she finished school in Portugal with Ricardo, now 24, her boyfriend at the time and now her fiancé. Her aunt was already working at a meat processing factory and suggested that she joined her because the money was good. She spoke little English before she came but now is fluent. After six months, she was offered a job as a supervisor.**



Tom Pilston/Bridging Arts

Tom Pilston/Bridging Arts



Tania comes from Coimbra, an ancient university city.

“I tried to do something better, to save some money. If I carry on doing what I’m doing, I’ll be able to go back to Portugal in five years. I miss the way of life. It’s very hard because my family is there. I miss home.”

Her dream is to return and buy a house. She is now pregnant and her baby is due to be born in February 2008. Once back, she says she will do anything, even hard manual work to support herself. The important thing is to have been able to buy a house.

Eduarda, with her husband Victor, have opened a small shop selling Portuguese goods in Bodmin.

Tom Pilston/Bridging Arts



Tom Pilston/Bridging Arts



They offer things not available in local supermarkets, in particular the salted cod which is a mainstay of Portuguese cuisine.



## MY EXPERIENCE AS A MIGRANT WORKER

### Photos contributed by Michal Kirstein

Michal comes from Gdansk, the port in northern Poland famous for having been at the heart of the Solidarity uprising which laid the seeds for the downfall of the old Communist government. He has been to Cornwall four summers running to work on farms. For him, it is a way of earning money to support his studies. He is also keen to improve his English. He has no long term plans to settle in the UK.

Who am I? is a very difficult question for anyone.

### How did you define yourself when you were a stranger and few people knew you well – or could really see or understand ‘who you were’?

Finding your own identity when you’re abroad (especially as a migrant worker) is difficult. In Poland I would describe myself as a successful student doing a masters degree in psychology with a first degree in management.

My father is a doctor, my mother an economist. They are quite well-off. In fact the standard of my life is high. When I’m working abroad, I become a different person. My housing conditions are poor, I usually stay in a caravan. The food I buy is the cheapest in the store. I do the job that is not related to my qualifications at all. Personally I don’t find it as a problem because it’s just a summer job, but I believe there are many people who suffer because their life changes radically. The answer to the question “who am I?” might not be easy for them.



### Did any kind of difficulties result? For example, depression?

If a man works 12 hours a day, seven days a week, is despised and poorly paid, has no stable relationships, entertainment or social life, what will happen to him? There are no doubts – all of that leads to a mental break-down. My stay in the UK wasn't long enough to cause harmful effects of isolation, loneliness or physical exhaustion. However I found out that some Poles who lived there longer than couple of months had a feeling of hopelessness. They were tired of very hard work, worried of losing their jobs and finally lonely because they missed their families and friends. All those factors may cause depression or even mental break-down. The other problem that may occur as well is alienation, which is in this particular case the state of feeling estranged or separated from the society. People feel isolated for many reasons. The one which is definitely the most important is language barrier.

### Were others around you feeling the same thing?

I think that all migrants have similar feelings. Firstly they feel anxiety – are my language skills good enough to communicate? Will I find a place to stay? Will I find a job? will they pay me? etc. The next level is the feeling of happiness which is the result of finding the job and earning the money – “Oh, my God I can earn here 4x more than in Poland!”

Finally, it's time for some bad emotions which occur when they realize that they miss families/ friends, they feel isolated or when they are simply exhausted because of everyday work.



### Did you help each other? Do people cling together?

The answer to this question is – it depends. I would say in theory Polish migrants should keep together and help each other because they are a minority group. Unfortunately it's not always true. It sometimes happens that migrants form smaller groups and challenge others. They threat their own group as a team and help each other but their attitude to the rest is rather ambivalent. Most people seem to be friendly but in fact when you really need help you can't get it. Migrants feel insecure about their jobs and that's why they treat others like rivals.

### Is this feeling experienced more acutely by certain groups, or types of people?

The feelings such as hopelessness, loneliness etc. can be experienced more acutely by some people. However, it's really hard to define certain groups or types of people who suffer more than others because of them. People who have low self-esteem, who consistently view themselves and the world with pessimism, or who are readily overwhelmed by stress are more prone to depression. I didn't find any psychological research showing a relationship between personality traits and feelings such as loneliness or hopelessness. But I can compare my own experience with a friend who spent three months with me in the UK. I'm definitely an introvert, he is an extrovert. He talked with local people at work, in the place we stayed, at pubs or clubs much more than me, even though his language skills were poor. After the three months I felt really tired, bored and annoyed about being there and I was really happy that I finally went back to Poland. What about him? Well, he didn't share my feelings at all. He was rather happy and even ready to stay for another month. This simple example shows that two different types of people can experience the same situation very differently.



### Do difficulties with adjustment depend on a person's social or education background?

Yes, they do. Firstly, age matters. Young people are able to adjust much easier than old people. They are usually ready to change their life radically. This can be really difficult for older people who spend all life in Poland. They have their own traditions and habits. It's hard for them to acculturate in foreign country. Education may be helpful in the process of adaptation in a foreign country simply because it's much easier to find a good job when you're well educated.

### How do people cope?

The easiest way to cope with everyday problems and their harmful effects on people's mental health is finding some activities that help to relax. If Polish migrants had an opportunity to socialize with local people (for example to play sport with them, attend cross-cultural meetings) their life would be more similar to the life that they left in Poland. After a week of hard work the idea of visiting the club and just have a small talk to people, even if they are strangers is very interesting.

### Are some people overwhelmed by the challenge?

Apparently, yes. A 180-degree change of lifestyle may be confusing for a significant number of people, especially the older ones. Although the basis of UK culture isn't very different from any other West or Middle-European, the number of small changes that one needs to adapt to might cause stress, anxiety and a feeling of being lost. For instance, psychologically, driving a left hand drive vehicle while talking in English (therefore simultaneously translating from one language to another) with someone at the same time takes a lot more of brain assets than it would for a native UK citizen, used to right hand drive. This is only a one example of this kind; they might lead to both psychological and day to day problems, encountering which one hasn't been expecting.



### What was your experience?

I can say that all of my visits in the UK were a kind of challenge. They gave me an opportunity to discover that I can successfully cope with many everyday problems. Not only it gave me more trust in myself but also made me realized that as an uneducated (in the area of my work of course) employee I can be as effective as English people. I realized that employers in the UK treat us like a partners not like a cheap source of work. I've noticed that nowadays local people know much more about Poland than a couple years ago. The time spent in the UK made me think about looking for a proper job in this country when my studies are finished.

### Would ways of connecting with local people helped?

A friendly atmosphere is really important for migrants. I remember my first visit in the UK. Although I stayed with English family, and I didn't know them very well, they managed to make me feel comfortable in that situation. They invited me for a barbecue with their friends, showed me the neighbourhood, helped me find a job, and even sometimes gave me a lift when the weather was awful. It really helped me to adjust to the new situation. It's a shame that many migrants live only with people with the same nationality and don't have an opportunity to get to know local people and their culture.

## LIVES IN SUITCASES

We have created suitcases which reveal the background of migrant workers. These suitcases can now be taken out and shown to the group or class..



### EXERCISE ONE

Ask the group to look closely at one of the suitcases for 30 seconds then turn away.

Ask people to spend three minutes trying to remember ten things that they saw and write them down.

Discuss the reasons why these might have been brought to Cornwall.

The following sheets of background information explaining the objects in the suitcases can now be handed out.

# I PACKED THIS MYSELF

Poland, Lithuania, Portugal, Romania and Bulgaria: people from all of these countries now work in Cornwall, many of them doing tough, physical and poorly paid jobs.

Often their lives remain hidden and they may have little contact with local people. This suitcase reveals some of their stories.



Many of these workers will return to their own countries when they have earned enough to build a better life for themselves back home. Others will stay.

For each person, the choice of what to pack at the start of the journey was crucial.

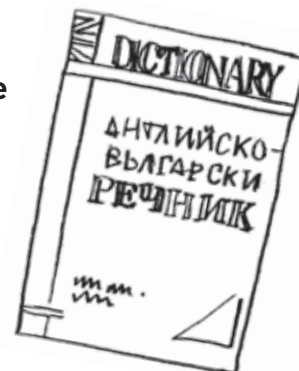


## DICTIONARIES

Many workers from overseas doing manual jobs have degrees from universities in their own countries. Workers on a flower farm near Camborne over the past 12 months have included a qualified vet, a maritime engineer and a Romanian Under 21 rugby international.

**“If I’m sorry about any part of my life here, it is that people think that just because I don’t speak good English I am not smart. In fact, the opposite is true. I received an excellent education in Lithuania.”**

**J, 25, from Vilnius in Lithuania, came to Cornwall three years ago. She now lives in Portreath with her husband and baby and packs bacon in a local meat factory**



## FAMILY PHOTOS

Reminders of home can remind you of who you are in a strange place where people might appear not to understand.

**“We’d like to have family and friends visit us here, but it is not so easy or cheap for them to fly over. In the summer, we go to the beach every day, because it is so beautiful, but not being able to share or show it to those back home makes it hard to enjoy the beauty without some small sadness inside.”**

J, 25, from Lithuania



## PICTURE OF MADONNA AND CHILD

For many workers from countries with a strong Catholic tradition – like Poland, Lithuania and Portugal – faith is an important part of life.

K, once a marketing and management student, comes from the small town of Kielce in southern Poland. She now works at a meat processing factory near Camborne and picks flowers in the spring to earn extra money.

In her case, she bought a sleeping bag, some canned meats and a picture of Christ given to her by her parents just before she set off.





### TRADITIONAL EARTHENWARE

A Romanian student packed a traditional earthenware cup and bowl to remind him of home. They had been lying around the family kitchen and he had scarcely noticed them until he came to leave. Then he decided to take them with him.

**“Things from home only become visible when you leave home.”**



### CDs OF TRADITIONAL MUSIC

Music can lift the spirits and transport you to another place.

A Romanian student working on a flower farm near Camborne said people back home liked to listen to western pop and rock, and hear what life elsewhere was like.



But when they actually arrived at the 'elsewhere', they wanted to listen to music with the spirit of home.



## POLISH BREAD AND GHERKINS

Food is more than something to keep hunger pangs at bay. Food from home can be comforting and reassuring. It can also have a deep symbolic meaning. Some workers packed bread from home.

A., 25, comes from Koszalin, in northern Poland where unemployment is high. He has worked for the past three years on a bulb farm near Camborne. In Poland, he studied at a maritime university in Szczecin, doing engineering work in ships and boats in the docks.

On the farm, he starts at 6 in the morning and finishes at 6 at night on weekdays. On Saturday, if he chooses to work, he starts at 8am and finishes at 5pm. On Sundays he sleeps or walks to the local town. He calls his mother and father every weekend on his mobile.

Is he homesick? Yes, for the food, the bread and his family.



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Design by Rabina Stratton Illustrations by Glyn Goodwin



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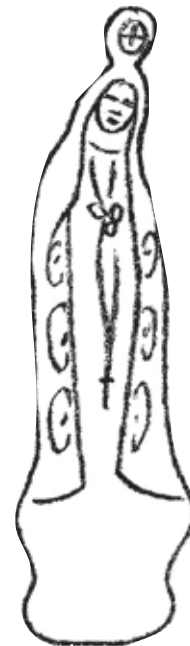
Poland, Lithuania, Portugal, Romania and Bulgaria: people from all of these countries play a very important part in food production in Cornwall. In the meat processing industry, the vast majority of workers come from overseas, many from Portugal.

Many of the Portuguese have come with their families and their children attend local schools. Some will eventually return to Portugal; others will stay in Cornwall. For everyone, deciding what to pack at the start of their journey here was important. This suitcase contains some of the things that they chose to bring with them.

## OUR LADY OF FATIMA

Our Lady of Fatima is the name given to the Virgin Mary by those who believe that she appeared to three shepherd children in Fatima, Portugal, on the 13th day of six consecutive months in 1917, starting on 13 May.

A Portuguese woman in Cornwall said she always carried a small statue of Our Lady of Fatima when she travelled. She had prayed to the saint for help when her mother was ill with cancer and made a vow. She said that she would circle the shrine in Fatima – where the Virgin appeared – on her hands and knees every year if her mother pulled through, a promise that she has kept.



Everywhere they went, the Portuguese set up a network of trading posts and established a dazzling array of colonies – including Brazil, Angola and Mozambique. Portuguese remains the world's sixth most spoken language .

Many Portuguese in Cornwall said they brought flags with them from home. They are fiercely proud of their nationality.

### **GALO DE BARCELOS**

The rooster – the Galo de Barcelos – is a national symbol of Portugal.

Barcelos is a small town in the north of Portugal celebrated for its pottery. There is a famous legend attached to the rooster of Barcelos.

A local landowner was giving a banquet but a valuable piece of silver was stolen. One of the guests was accused and arrested – though he insisted he had nothing to do with the crime. He was eventually tried and faced the death sentence.

But as the judge was deliberating, he asked for one last chance to prove his innocence. A roasted rooster was on the table ready to be eaten. The man said: "If I am innocent, the rooster will crow."

The rooster sprang to life, grew feathers and crowed and the man walked free.

Ever since the rooster has been a symbol of honesty, trust and honour and can be found in many Portuguese homes.





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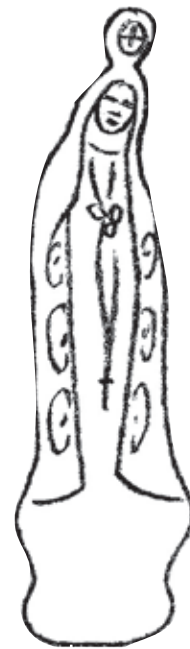
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## EXERCISE TWO

Ask the group to think about the pressures that migrant workers might face and write a list of ten difficulties – then ten things that might help.

A migrant worker from Poland made the following list:

- Language barriers
- Unpredictable work or housing
- Being away from family or friends
- Rigid work demands
- Poor pay
- Poor housing conditions
- Hard physical labour
- Lack of transportation
- Discrimination from society
- Undocumented status
- Getting used to a new environment
- Limited access to medical care
- Geographical and social isolation
- Emotional isolation.

Compare it with lists made by the group.



## EXERCISE THREE

Anyone can be a migrant worker

### Say to the group:

There is nothing new about travelling overseas to find work. More than a century ago, hundreds of Cornish people left for America, South Africa and Australia when the tin market collapsed and mines closed. At some stage of your life, you might find yourself leaving home to find work.

What would you take with you if you were leaving Cornwall to find work?

Please write – or draw – a list.

Discuss.

## EXERCISE FOUR – A GROUP DISCUSSION

He who is unable to live in society,  
or who has no need because he is sufficient for himself,  
must be either a beast or a god.

**Aristotle**

The Greek philosopher Aristotle said that if you could live alone, you were a beast or a god, not a man. Do you agree?

### Use the following points to work out your ideas...

- A sense of self has to do with the reception that others give you. If there is nothing to remind you of how others see you, your sense of self becomes fragile. One's sense of self obviously has to do with beliefs and culture.
- If you don't have those familiar things, you start to lose your identity. When you can't relate to the things or people, it's difficult to see who you are.
- What we are is the sum of the environment that we live in.
- To have a sense of self worth, you need to have a sense of your own value. It is very important to feel valuable. It's important to feel worthy of something.
- If people have no goals and no self esteem, there's an emptiness in their lives.

## SUMMARY

Ask the group what they have learned. Ask if they would like to create their own suitcase or write in more detail about their thoughts. Please collect as much as you can of the work, either to display locally or to forward to Bridging Arts. We will collate it and display it as **I Packed This Myself** is used around Cornwall.

Ask, too, if the group would like to engage more with migrant workers on these issues. Possibly you and the group might take steps to welcome migrant workers. Groups across Cornwall are holding **Let's Talk** evenings to welcome workers. Libraries are also keen to engage with migrant workers and might be prepared to stage an event with you.

Bridging Arts has a list of contacts in your area. Email [info@bridging-arts.com](mailto:info@bridging-arts.com), visit [www.bridging-arts.com](http://www.bridging-arts.com) or call 020 8749 9010 or write to Bridging Arts, PO Box 48356, London W12 9WX for more information.

## PROGRAMMES OF STUDY FOR CITIZENSHIP KS3 AND KS4

### KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING ABOUT BECOMING INFORMED CITIZENS

#### Opportunity for pupils to learn about:

##### ■ KS3 and KS4

- **the diversity of national, regional, religious and ethnic identities in the UK and the need for mutual respect and understanding** by looking at the experience of migrant workers in Cornwall
- **the work of community-based, national and international voluntary groups** in welcoming migrant workers
- **the significance of the media in society** in reporting the experience of migrant workers and their contribution to life in the UK
- **the world as a global community, and the political, economic, environmental and social implications of this** by looking at the need for migrant workers and the new pressures on the Cornish economy and agriculture.

##### ■ KS4

- **the origins and implications of the diverse national, regional, religious and ethnic identities in the UK** by studying the cultural touchstones brought by migrant workers, their hopes, expectations and experience
- **how the economy functions** and agriculture plays a key role in Cornwall
- **the opportunities for individuals and voluntary groups to bring about social change locally, nationally, in Europe and internationally** by looking at the Let's Talk initiative and by making efforts themselves to include migrant workers
- **the rights and responsibilities of consumers, employees and employees** by looking the way food is produced and employment methods.

### DEVELOPING SKILLS OF ENQUIRY AND COMMUNICATION

#### Opportunity for pupils to:

##### ■ KS3 and KS4

- **think about topical, political, moral, social and cultural issues, problems and events** through exercises around the migrant workers' suitcases

##### ■ KS4

- **research a topical, political, spiritual, moral, social or cultural issue, problem or event** through discussing issues raised by the suitcase.

### DEVELOPING SKILLS OF PARTICIPATION AND RESPONSIBLE ACTION

#### Pupils can:

##### ■ KS3 and KS4

- **use their imagination to consider other people's experiences and be able to think about, express and explain views that are not their own** by analysing items in the suitcases
- **negotiate, decide and take part responsibly in both school and community-based activities** by devising ways they can reflect their own identity and experience through creating a suitcase of their own