



## First Impressions (extracts)



"I had grown up in China reading classical English literature and I imagined people sipped tea in a high tea setting, but when I came here the first cup of tea I had involved a tea-bag dumped in a mug" (laughs)

**Yi-Fen Duh moved from China to England in 2003.**



"When I came to this country I remember looking at the houses and thinking they were factories because of the great big chimneys on top. I said to my husband, 'gosh everyone must be very rich around here because they all own factories!'"

**Merle Taylor moved from Jamaica in 1961.**



"When I came to England I realised how different written English is from spoken English. I really struggled to understand what people were saying as much as they struggled to understand me!"

**Zaglago Light moved from Ghana to England in 2003.**



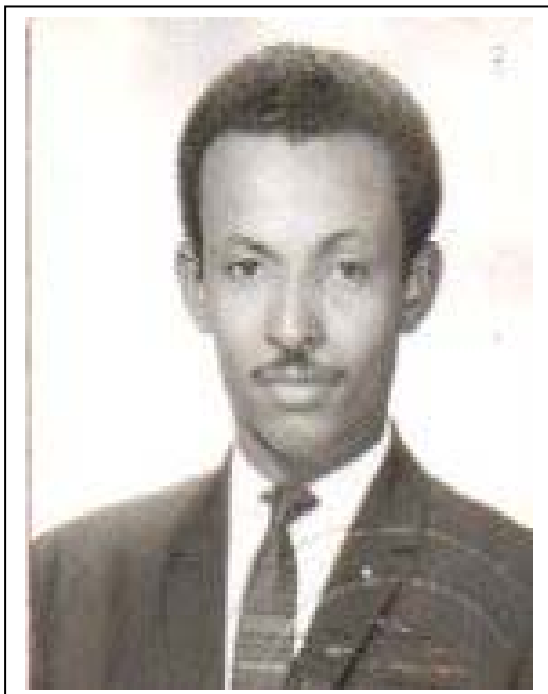
"I did not know what to expect when I came to England, but I really did not like it. I remember looking at all the houses closely packed together, it was a different life from what we had in India. People did not socialise here as much and the cold weather meant people preferred to be indoors rather than outside."

**Kashmir Kaur moved from India to England in 1971.**



"My first impression of England is that people are very polite. They say 'Please' and 'Thank you' and queue in an orderly fashion. If you stand at the bus stop most people will make polite conversation about the weather. But in China, people always talk about food because it such an important part of our culture."

**Mary Lu left China and moved to Bridgnorth in 1982.**



"Shropshire was a home from home for me because I had lived in a rural community in Jamaica. I think people were very surprised to learn that when I came here. Jamaica has strong links to Britain through slavery and colonial connection and so we speak English and our currency, food and way of life is very British."

**Leon Murray left Jamaica to live in England in 1961.**