

Celebrating migrant friendships on International Migrants Day #migrantfriend

You may be aware that next Tuesday is International Migrants Day. It's a day designated by the UN to celebrate migration, to hear from migrants, and to remember how they enrich our lives and societies.

This year, Migrant Voice is celebrating the connections and friendships created due to migration. Friends are important to all of us and many of us have friends who weren't born in the UK. Our lives would be less rich without them.

[RADIO] We're inviting you to join us by using the conversations from the video in the link below on your radio show next Tuesday, 18 December, and encourage your listeners to make their own #migrantfriend videos or mini podcasts.

<https://bit.ly/2S1Z5Ph>

[DIGITAL/TV] We're inviting you to use the video in the link below and information here as part of your Migrants Day coverage on 18 December.

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The footage celebrates migrant friendships and was gathered from across the UK. In each scenario, two or three friends chat, laugh and reminisce about their time together, recalling how they met and how different their lives would be if they hadn't.

Tanya met Kaz a few years ago and brought her along to a local community centre. "She's got a warm heart, she's lovely, she's got a great sense of humour," says Tanya. "And we're mums, so that's the next thing that joins us together."

Ali and Behram have known each other most of their lives. "We help each other out, always. We're there to support each other," says Ali.

Kim and Marta met in a London office. Kim says they have a "similar sort of silly sense of humour... quite a sarcastic sense of humour."

Asked about how life would be without Kim, Marta says, "If she wasn't here, I think it would be worse... I'm gonna cry."

We're also encouraging anyone who is a #migrantfriend or who has a #migrantfriend to make a short video on their phone with their friend and post it on Twitter or Facebook. How and where did you meet and what were your first impressions? How would you describe your friend in two words? Without your friend, how would life be different?

You're welcome to use any of the video in your coverage, mentioning Migrant Voice and our #migrantfriend campaign.

We can also supply additional footage, quotes or photos from the friends featured in the video – just get in touch.

In the run-up to Migrants Day, you'll also be able to find more #migrantfriend videos on [our YouTube channel](#), on [our website](#), and on [our Twitter page](#).

Please get in touch directly if you'd like to interview any of the "friends" for your coverage or if you'd like to speak with our Director Nazek Ramadan about Migrant Voice and the campaign.