

# Communities Communicating Polish

Eliminating barriers of communication in the community



Krystyna

## Czulam sie obco i nieswojo... Like a fish out of water...

My name is Krystyna.

Although I have always lived in the UK, my first language was Polish.

When I first went to primary school, I spoke very little English and felt like a fish out of water.

Perhaps it is due to this memory that I feel drawn towards helping those who have not yet learnt English.

Once, I told my mother I had been 'on the train' as is said in English. But the Polish words I used - 'bylam na pociagu' - are a literal translation. She visualised me sitting ON

TOP of the train! Mispronunciation also causes confusion. My aunt went into a store wanting a pan-scourer. But she said 'I need something to scrub my pants. I just cannot get them clean!'

Nazywam sie Krystyna.

Od urodzenia mieszkam w Anglii, ale moim pierwszym jezykiem byl Polski.

Pamietam kiedy po raz pierwszy poszlam do szkoly. Mowilam slabo po Angielsku. Czulam sie obco i nieswojo.

Moze ta pamiec z mojego dzieciinstwa spowodowala to ze czuje potrzebe niesienia pomocy tym ludziom ktorzy jeszcze nie nauczyl sie Angielskiego.