**Two Caravans** 

By Marina Lewchka

Penguin £12.99

Two Caravans is the touching, poignant, hilarious story of a group of migrant workers who come from Eastern Europe and China to pick strawberries in Kent. It follows them through the daily grind as well as the crises that cause them to flee their temporary homes. It is a carefully woven story of love, fear, resilience, friendship, exploitation and dreams. The vulnerability of women is a particular theme as the main character fights a constant battle against sexual exploitation from unscrupulous gangmasters. All of this is set against the fact that these migrant workers have little or no access to the norms of life in the UK with which crises can be faced and even overcome.

Lewchka, herself the daughter of migrants from the Ukraine, continues the theme of the plight of migrants from her first book the hugely successful *A Short History of Tractors in Ukrainian*.

Ironically, this book received the commendation of Daily Mail Book of the Week. As a story it could be used in church discussions as well as book groups to highlight the situation, lives and feelings of migrants and wider issues around migration.

**Janice Price**