

Tuesday 6 October

I put off signing up to any courses that I want to do. Do I really want to do them? I look them up regularly and see there are spaces available. I look at the cost and think of the time involved. I think of all the other things I have to do. I keep looking back to them regularly. I don't sign up.

One day, I look them up and they have 'FULL' written against them. Oh dear, I think. I missed the boat there. But it's ok, I can take some action: I sign on to the waiting list. Here I am doing something: I am actively waiting. I feel much better.

Weeks go by, the start date passes. Then I get an email. Someone has dropped out, would I like the space?

I didn't expect that. I didn't expect my waiting to turn into action. I dither then agree to take the space. Now I have to actually do the class.

I'm still on the waiting list for the other one though. A space better not come up for that one.

The waiting list - like the waiting room. But you don't have to sit there and read a book. You can get on with all the other things. But still be in the queue. Once you are on the list you are free. Though waiting lists can be mysterious. People jump them. Nobody really knows the order, if someone's got in front of them 😊. Maybe you should put us all on a waiting list and tell us our number in the queue and when we have reached number 1. What happens? 🤔

A couple of weeks ago I was feeling extremely frustrated. I was waiting on several things. They were:

A plumber (leaky pipe/tap)

NHS - dodgy mole

Child psychologist (dodgy child)

School (dodgy teacher)

It was one particular day I felt frustrated and helpless as I waited on these things.

But then I remembered the waiting residency and that gave my waiting some purpose - like the act of waiting was not an empty void of waste. Do you focus on the thing you are waiting on - or do you turn away from it and distract yourself? You are still waiting whether your mind is on the subject or not.

These were mostly short term things, but felt frustrating in the moment as I couldn't do anything about them that very day.

Weeks later and mostly they have been moved on now. The pipe is fixed (I think), the school arranged a meeting, the psychologist lady zoom called and suggested things to do while on the waiting list 😊, I went private rather than wait on the NHS!