

The Placement Diaries: Week 34 - Being in Person

6th May 2022

Literally one thing happened this week, and it was being in person for the first time in over 2 years, which, to me, was a welcome change since working from home was starting to drive me insane. My only regret is that I didn't decide to do this sooner, but then again, it was optional, and the only thing which put me off from physically going to the Hub more often was the long commute (essentially being 2 hours long, where I'd have to inevitably catch 2 trains to get there, which in turn, meant getting up earlier than usual to be able to make it in time, and to also make the journey there and back more worthwhile than going all that way just to be there for an hour at most), however, I did it, and it literally didn't make a difference, so maybe I just (classically) overthought and overanalysed everything when I didn't need to. Had I decided to do this more often, perhaps going to the Hub once a week, I probably would have had a much better experience with my placement year, instead of just dealing with the same things day in day out for months on end.

It was pretty straightforward, I simply went in and met everyone, surprisingly being extremely extroverted and energetic without really realising it or forcing it, since it just came naturally. Perhaps it was the fact that I was out and about for once, maybe being a spring that has been compressed so much that when you let go of it, it bounces so high that it's actually unbelievable. Maybe I was so bored of just being online all the time, and decided that I wanted a change for once, but it was for the better, since I realise that I much prefer in person interactions over online interactions, mainly because ones that happen in person seem a lot more authentic and real than online ones since you're actually meeting people face to face instead of hiding behind screens and trying to call it a day.

So, that's been my week, something a bit out of the ordinary, but I'm thankful for it, and I'd gladly do it again. In fact, I probably might do more in person things more frequently, since I realise that I enjoy them, and that I actually get energised by in person interactions, always wanting more, despite the fact that this is wildly unusual for me since I previously used to find them draining. At this point, maybe I'm just an extrovert in denial, and I think that working from home (paired with the pandemic) is the reason why I'm essentially becoming an extrovert, along with choosing to listen to more upbeat and fast-paced music, but either way, I think I'm experiencing a pandemic induced transformation, all because I'm bored of working from home (since it makes me feel like a fly trapped in a jar), and being in person is now a novelty for me, though I did used to take it for granted before. Either way, I'm growing, and I'm welcoming this change.