

THE CULTIVATION CHRONICLES



DAY FOUR: 11th September 2020

By crikey, the fourth meet-up of the gardening group and a last minute arrangement due to the pesky weather and yours truly being busy leading wildlife walks and working for Young Carers. The day today however was set fair and fair it turned out to be with the sun increasing in stature, a soft breeze doing enough to make things pleasant and all working units getting stuck in and carrying out their given chores.

The first to arrive was Emily, a fine Young Carer who is always keen and raring to go. Her task for the day was to cut the rather long grass on the main lawn. Haste was needed as the battery operated mower only gives 20 minutes running time per battery. I had previously had a leisurely go on this electro-grazing contraption and ran out of fizz so Emily was informed of the time and motion dangers and told to 'crack on'.

Whilst Emily mowed away one of our older carers came (Hello Alec) and was duly given the task of cutting up the last remaining tree trunk and building another log pile (the 5th in total, ideal for the local bugs). Alec was given the usual pre-work brew and got stuck in to his arduous task with the usual tenacity.

Good old Bill arrived soon after, and was soon digging away at the most difficult area with zoned in zeal. He was soon joined by his fellow soil-turner Jacob (another grand Young Carer) and they once again made slow and steady progress on the defiant heavily compressed dirt. The area though was proving to be stubborn and after the session it was decided that a different approach is needed. The overhead trees will be trimmed, light will be made available and some plants will be planted in the ground whilst the rest of the area will be roughly dug over and laden with wildflowers seeds in a 'sow and hope' fashion - it may be the best way forward.

Time flew by, eventually a late arrival joined us, a new Young Carer called Keir who had been picked up by the Young Carers boss Katy. Keir was given a gentle task of weeding and after Emily had finished the grass-cutting duties she joined him and nattered whilst at work. Katy duly chipped in with some clearance work and of course some necessary brewing up. From the adult team we were blessed with the efficient hands of Mr Andrew North (Finance Manager) and Jennie Davies (Carers Liaison and super doofer) - it is good

to have all and sundry chipping in and working alongside our fine caring folk.

During the aforementioned proceedings I potted here and there, chatted with all and made sure the privet bushes were given a good haircut and made to look fairly presentable when all visitors come to our well-used and accommodating centre. I made sure I swilled my fair quota of tea too - needs must.

From 10am till 12.30pm we all beavered away with good intent and built up a good appetite to say the least. Thankfully Jennie had the idea to treat all workers to a chippy finish and that is just what we had come the end of the session. Tables and chairs were positioned on the freshly cut turf, the setting was completed with azure skies overhead and the still soothing breeze providing a great cooling comfort. All chippy orders were placed for Katy, Keir and Emily to do the chip shop run.

Picture the scene, the fine workers sat chatting, the smell of fine food floating on the air and a feeling of contentment with the simple things in life had by all. Young and old carers, young and old workers (I shall be one of the young ones thank you) all enjoying each others another's company and making a difference. We also had more tea and of course cake to finish, we don't do bad do we.

Farewells came, all were happy with the few hours of productivity - there has been some serious progress made and some positive vibes radiated, here's to the next one.



NEXT MEET-UP DATE PLANNED:

25th September 2020

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