

FAMILY

Tickled pink

Katy Carter shares one of those typical family moments, when you thought you had everything sorted...

Our youngest daughter had done really well in her Degree results and we wanted to send her a card to mark the occasion. The previous week, before her results came out, we had purchased a card in advance for her. It was from a local art exhibition, depicting a pink flamingo entitled 'Tickled Pink' and we felt this would be appropriate, when the time came, to send it.

Her results came out and she was so thrilled. Such excitement! All she had hoped for!

The next afternoon we were rushing to write the card and get it off to her in time for the weekend. We had a

busy afternoon with a folk practice in our local church to attend. We decided what we wanted to say and wrote the card as carefully as we could, addressed and stamped it. I was really relieved. It was all done. We were just going out of the door when my husband announced: 'You know I'm not really happy with this card. I'd like to get her a different one!'

At first I was really agitated and annoyed by this change of attitude: 'What... It's fine! You're joking! There's no time to choose and send another one! The last post is 5.30pm!'

Then I remembered a phrase that had come into my inbox that morning: 'Make space for other people's thoughts.'

Here was a chance to put it into practice.

I could see my husband really wasn't happy with this card so making space for his feelings, I agreed we could have a quick look in town after the practice which finished at 5pm! Just half an hour to get it all sorted! I didn't find this proposition easy!

The practice finished and we rushed to our favourite card shop, but found nothing we liked. My husband resigned himself to sending our original one. Ten minutes to go. That little thought again: 'Make space!' I suggested we just try one more shop.

As soon as we got to the card stand, we both saw it straight away, the perfect card for her! Fun, vibrant, endearing and with all the sentiments in the message that were so right for her achievement. 'Congratulations! ... 'You did it!'

We made the post with a minute to go!

Our daughter received our card the next morning. She immediately photographed it and sent it round on our family WhatsApp group to much delight from everyone. She was tickled pink with it! 



Illustration: Pixabay

