

FRIDAY FUN IN THE SCARF OFFICE – PART 1

June 29, 2012 emmajaneoriordan Day of Archaeology, Day of Archaeology 2012, Digital Archaeology, Early Medieval, Education, Historical Archaeology, Iron Age, Maritime Archaeology, Medieval, Post Medieval, Prehistory, Roman, Science, Viking Anthropology, Archaeology, Edinburgh, Emma Jane, Jeff Sanders, Natasha Ferguson, Project assistant, project manager, Science, Scotland, Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, Twitter

Society of Antiquaries of **Scotland**

Not even being the Day of Archaeology 2012 could bring the sunshine to Edinburgh today, so whilst the view from the office at the [Society of Antiquaries of Scotland](#) (SoAS), is definitely dreich, at least reading about all this archaeology will brighten up the day!

My name is Emma Jane O’Riordan and I am the Project Assistant for the [Scottish Archaeological Research Framework \(ScARF\)](#) or [@scarfhub](#) on Twitter. The project took part in the Day of

Archaeology last year too so you can read about the background to the project in the 2011 posts from the Project Manager, Jeff Sanders [here](#) and [here](#).



Ideas for ScARF postcards

The first task of the day is some Friday fun – I have to design some postcards to promote the project. There are nine panels in ScARF, seven of these are period based ([Paleolithic and Mesolithic](#), [Neolithic](#), [Bronze Age](#), [Iron](#)

Deciding on one image to define each report is therefore quite tricky – how do you define ‘science’ in archaeology through one image? Therefore, I’ve decided to use word clouds instead. These are only **ideas** after all!



First up is writing some guides to using the ScARF wiki (for those more

It is really only in the last few months that we have realised **how much more useful than the pdf reports the wiki could be**. Perhaps the most useful thing is that registered users can leave comments on pages, which we hope will spark some lively debate. So far, ‘hot’ topics include [Medieval coins](#) and [Norse Scotland](#), people have identified gaps and some have even offered to write text to fill these gaps in, which is very kind.

In fact, all of the content in ScARF – around **800,000 words** of main text, by around **320 contributors** – has been given in kind. I think this is a monumental achievement by the sector and shows the love people working in all areas of Archaeology have for the subject! Today I've got to finish up the guides on how to register, how to leave comments and a more comprehensive one on reading the wiki as a whole. Guides can be boring though, so I'm hoping lots of nice annotated screenshots will do the trick. In the future, we might make a video guide to using the wiki but I'd rather find a ~~victim~~ willing volunteer for that other than me!

Now its time for lunch – today I'll be spending it with Natasha Ferguson from the [Treasure Trove](#). We did Archaeology at university together and although this won't be a working lunch I'm sure we'll chat about some of the other exciting Day of Archaeology posts!