

75 YEARS OF THE INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY, OR, MY DAY #1,383 IN THE IOA HOUSE...

June 29, 2012 Frear Community Archaeology, Day of Archaeology 2012, Education Administrative Archaeology, administrator, Alumni Party, Archaeological Administrator, Archaeological Institution, Archaeology, Archaeology Department, author, Bahrain, British Museum, Charlotte Frearson, director, Facebook, Gordon Square, Institute of Archaeology, receptionist, Scottish Crannog Centre, Social networking, southampton, St John's Lodge, Stephen Shennan, Tessa Wheeler, the Guardian, the student, University Archaeology, University of London

Archaeology has meant many things to me – Archaeological musings in Bahrain circa 1986 (aged 4);



*So it begins...the
author, aged 4,
exploring the
desert...*

Archaeological digs in Colchester; Archaeology BA from Southampton 2000; Archaeological reconstruction Scottish Crannog Centre crazy Iron Age Woman 2003; UCL MSc Archaeology and Human Evolution 2005; Archaeological reflection St Kilda 2006; Archaeological Consultancy 2007; Archaeological Administrator 2008-present...as I enjoy day 1,383 in the Institute of Archaeology house I can reflect on my time here, which has flown by (thanks to my tremendous colleagues and the most splendid of students!!!) and my Admin Archaeological work...

A typical day:

8.27am arrive...drink coffee

9am commence work – emails / tours / forms / UCAS / meetings / external meetings / student meetings

11am more coffee under the auspicious gazes of Wheeler, Grimes, Childe and Kenyon in the Staff room...



Wheeler Method – the father of the IoA (on this our 75th Anniversary year!)

12pm sometimes desk cover for the reception – lots of waving at people (should a receptionist wave?)

1pm – ham, salad cream and rocket on rye – hearty lunch of archaeological champions

2pm – 5.30pm – forms / liaise / meetings / sort / web / social networking (for work!) etc and so forth.

As far as an admin job goes this particular one rocks – it's the best of both Archaeological worlds – I still get the chance to dig / attend some lectures / talk to archaeological folk / do some archaeological outreach but I get an office, with a fan, a musical boombox and a computer – less problematic for my tired archaeological knees. I also get to administer the applications of the new generation of Archaeologists.

This year has been our **75th Anniversary** – the anniversary of Mortimer's dream coming to fruition and his wife, Tessa Wheeler, securing the money for the IoA in Regents Park (St John's Lodge) – [super photos](#) from the 1950s onwards.

We have had the following events in the IoA this year:

6 Inaugural Lectures

5 75th Anniversary Debates

1 Alumni Party (IoA Director [Prof Stephen Shennan's](#) speech)

...and **1** Massive World Experimental Archaeology Day in Gordon Square – [Pics here!](#)



Sat 9th June World of Archaeology!

Working at the IoA is a joy – every day is different...and for me it provides the perfect balance of admin and Archaeology – plus it is really close to the [British Museum](#) for all the best outings!

So...to plug the IoA once again – you can follow us on [Facebook](#) there are pics and news about the workings of an Archaeological Institution (thanks to the [Guardian](#) and the student survey – the UK's number one Archaeology Department! Thank you graduands!)

[Charlotte Frearson](#) – Undergraduate Programmes Administrator / Museums Placement Organiser / Fieldwork Administrator / Social Networker / Moodle...