

THE USUAL UNUSUAL DAY

July 2, 2012 Sheena Payne-Lunn Community Archaeology, Day of Archaeology, Day of Archaeology 2012, Digital Archaeology, Education, Excavation Historic Environment Record, Social Media



At Bristol Temple Meads

It would be incorrect to say that today was unusual, despite being away in Bristol rather than at my desk in Worcester. This is because it would be hard to define a ‘usual’ day as HER Officer. I am responsible for maintaining and developing Worcester City’s Historic Environment Record ([#WorCityHER](#)), and very few days are ever the same. From the more mundane data entry, through to organising events within the local community, it’s certainly a rich and varied tapestry.

My Day of Archaeology began with a fairly uneventful train journey, during which I checked my emails and my Twitter account, remembering to tweet my support for [#DayofArch](#). The Bristol HER was hosting our regular Local Engagement group meeting today, which is always a really inspiring catch-up with fellow HER Officers and English Heritage, and as ever I left buzzing with ideas. The main focus of today was trying to establish the longer term aspirations of the group and where we want to go with it all. We were all fired up with ideas and further fuelled by a fascinating discussion about the use of smart phones to get people sharing information about their own areas.



Comfrey growing at the WYAC Allotment – a great natural fertiliser

A regular part of the group's catch-up is sharing what we've been doing in our own HERs. Projects that the group members have been working on include Bristol HER's fantastic 'Know Your Place' and South Gloucestershire HER's work with local communities via a soon-to-be launched Ning social media site. I was able to report back on a number of projects that we in Worcester have in the pipeline, including a bid to reinterpret a scheduled Civil War Fort and involvement with Worcestershire Young Archaeologists' Club (www.wyac.co.uk & [@WorcsYAC](https://twitter.com/WorcsYAC)). The club have been working on the Lansdowne Allotment Project ([#WYACAllotment](https://twitter.com/WYACAllotment)), undertaking training excavation, recording finds and working towards growing a variety of historic crops using traditional methods. And tweeting whilst we do so!