



Culture



**NEARCH**  
**Meet the partners**  
**N°1**



Meet Holly Wright

**Profession:**  
Archaeologist

**Institution:**  
Archaeology Data Service (ADS) – University of York

**What is it you do exactly? (job title)**

I am a European Projects Manager.

**What is your institution's involvement in the NEARCH project?**

The ADS is working on expanding European participation in the digital Day of Archaeology, developing mobile technologies, exploring new publication paradigms, and participating as a host for mobility grants and artist residencies.

**What attracted you in the NEARCH project and why did you wish to participate in it?**

ADS was fortunate to be part of the ACE project which preceded NEARCH, and as an open access archive, were very pleased to have the chance to participate in a community-focussed European collaboration.

**Are you and your team working on some activities in particular? If so, which ones?**

We recently hosted the NEARCH partners for a plenary meeting in York, along with the first of the three scientific sessions. Our scientific session focussed on *Archaeology and communication technologies. Enabling community involvement*. We are also currently working with the partners to develop translations for the participation pages of the Day of Archaeology website to allow greater access across Europe, and working with the partners to promote participation in their countries. Work on mobile app development is progressing, along with development of a multi-layered publication for different audiences, on the topic of prehistoric stone tools. ADS and partners within the Department of Archaeology at York are looking forward

to working with the NEARCH artists as part of the residencies based at 104 in Paris and Jan Van Eyck Academie in Maastricht.

**What is the aim of these activities?**

The aim of all our activities within NEARCH is to explore new, creative and useful ways to promote the open use and re-use of archaeological information, using digital methods.

**What continuation would you give to some of the activities of the project?**

I think continued support of the digital Day of Archaeology is important, as it is a low cost, highly accessible resource for both archaeologists and the public, which builds a true picture of what archaeology is, and what archaeologists do. I also think we are in a critical moment in the rapidly changing world of publication with the movement toward online and open access, and as archaeology is so interdisciplinary, needs to be at the forefront of these changes and continuing to explore new paradigms.

**What influences would you like NEARCH to have on archaeology and the work of archaeologists in general?**

Community involvement should be a part of normal practice in archaeology, and I would like the initiatives in NEARCH show the many ways this can be accomplished, and that there is no reason why it can't be accomplished.