

Clare's Diary

4th May 2011

Wednesday

Another PhD interview this morning but this time it's in East London, I feel much more relaxed knowing that I have a spot in Ireland and just decide to go in and give it my best shot.

Afterwards it's home to my friend Ciara's house where we have a celebratory meal, regardless of the interviews outcome, all my interview preparation is now completely over and it feels GREAT!

Thursday

I am northbound to Leeds this morning; one of my oldest friends is getting married next month and as her maid of honour I have a couple of jobs to do; the first is the all important task of checking out a few venues for the hen party and the second is trying on my dress and shoes! We catch up over a yummy dinner with her other bridesmaid Marcia.

Friday

Back to London this evening to meet the girlies! I collect some vino and dessert and make my way to my friend Elinor's house where we are having a catch up. Two of the girls are getting married next year including El so we chit chat about their plans thus far. Another has just got a new job, another just back from holidays and Libby the last is thinking about babies with her hubby which makes me feel like a real grown up all of a sudden! A wonderful evening full of laughter and chocolate, just what the doctor ordered!

Saturday

This morning is another girlie brunch before a sentimental trip to my old apartment from which I still need to collect some things. I lived here for almost two years before moving home last October so needless to say there are a few tears when I finally post the key back through the letter box. But I remind myself of all the happy memories I made here and that's enough to get me back to my friend Sarah's where I am staying tonight. A few hours later, our dancing shoes are firmly cemented on as we make our way into the city.

Sunday

A snooze this morning before a very late breakfast. Then the arduous task of trying to make everything fit back into my suitcase before Ashley, Sarah's flatmate drops me to Heathrow. Finally, I have time to begin feeling excited about my trip down under. Before long I am safely ensconced on the plane with seat belt fastened and headphones on. After the past hectic few weeks I can think of nothing nicer than the thirteen hours of movies and naptime which will make up the first leg of my journey.

Monday

Much of today is spent high above the clouds followed by a quick stop in Singapore before my connecting flight. Finally after 20 hours in the sky I land in Perth where I am greeted by one of the people I adore most on this planet. Elena and I have been friends since first year in secondary school but since she moved to Australia 4 years ago, I rarely get to see her. Cue more tears in the arrivals hall before the short journey to her house during which we babble incessantly; so much in my life has changed since I last saw Elena and it's difficult to know what to talk about first!

Tuesday

I wake up a little jet lagged today but decide to get up in order to help my body adjust. I have a quick run before walking into the nearby town of Fremantle where I have coffee and frozen yoghurt galore! Fremantle prison was home to thousands of Irish convicts who were transported here during the 19th and 20th centuries and I take the very informative tour around the building before catching the bus home.