



# A career in technology

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# What is my job like?



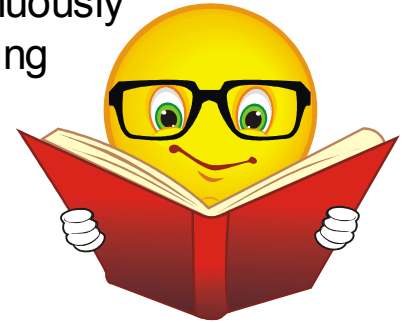
Fun

Reaching for the stars



Travel

Continuously Learning



Inventing



Meeting People



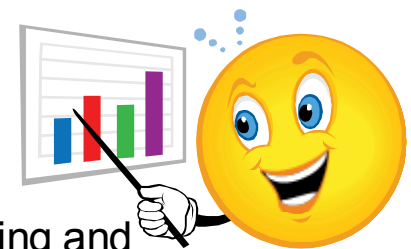
Great experiences



Hard work



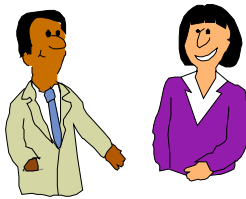
Scary



Teaching and Leading

# What do I do ...

Finding out what the system should do ...



*Business Analysis or Requirements Engineering*

Making sure the system is easy to use ...



*User Technologies*

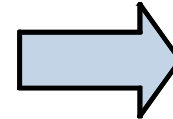
Demonstrating how the system works ...



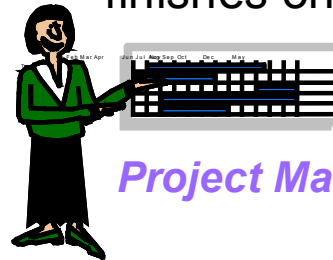
*Consultant or Sales Support*

*Software Engineering or Software Development*

Building the system ...



Making sure the project finishes on time

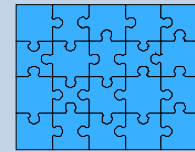


*Project Management*

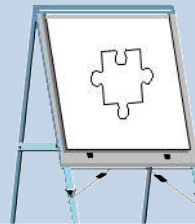
... and fixing it when it doesn't

*Customer Support*

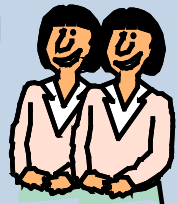
Architecture



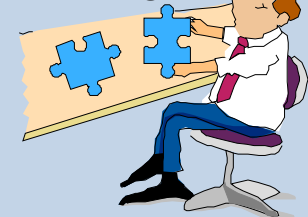
Design



Coding



Testing



# How did I get here?

- Education
  - Warblington School, Havant, Hants (O'levels)
    - Maths, English, Physics, Biology, History, French, Art, Woodwork
  - Havant College (A'levels)
    - Maths, Physics, Computer Studies
  - BSc (hons) Computing and Informatics, University of Plymouth
    - Industrial Training year in 1985 at IBM North Harbour
- Joined IBM in 1987
  - Based at Hursley Park
  - MSc Software Engineering, distinction, University of Brighton

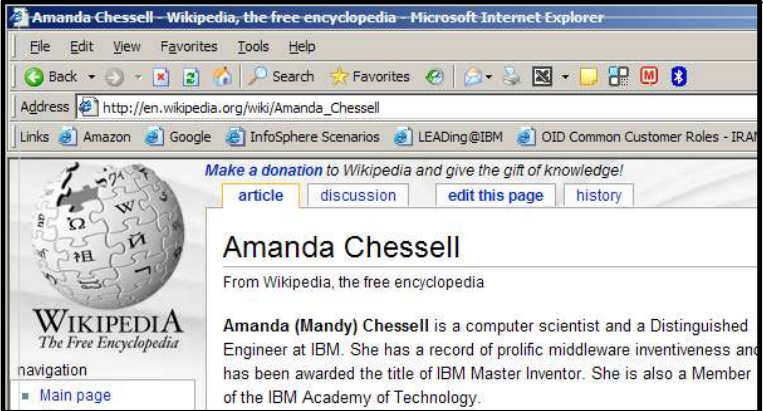
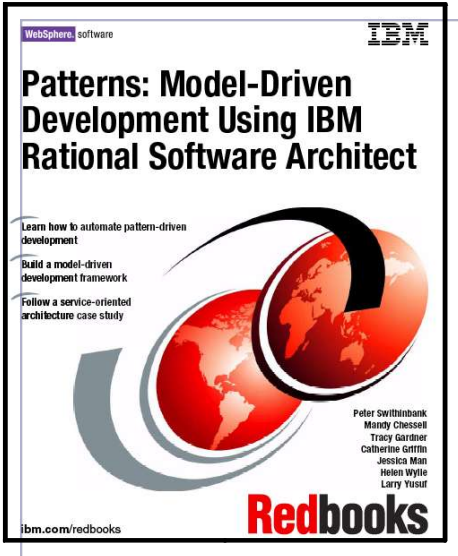


# Building a career

- Getting started
  - The visit from IBM
  - Summer Job
  - Placement Year
  - Degree
  - Joining IBM
- My second role
- When to say “yes”
- Building skills and network
- Facing my fears
- Discovering WIT
- Broadening scope



# The Rewards ...



# Outside of work ...



# Summary

- Excellence takes talent plus ...
  - Hard work, persistence and courage
- To build a career
  - Take small steps frequently
    - Assess how well you are performing
    - Focus on improving an aspect of your work
    - Try something new every month
  - Communicate well; communicate often
  - Be flexible and take opportunities as they come along
  - Have courage to raise issues and promote your ideas
  - Get a mentor; be a mentor
  - Be careful of what you wish for ... you might just get it 😊

# The End

