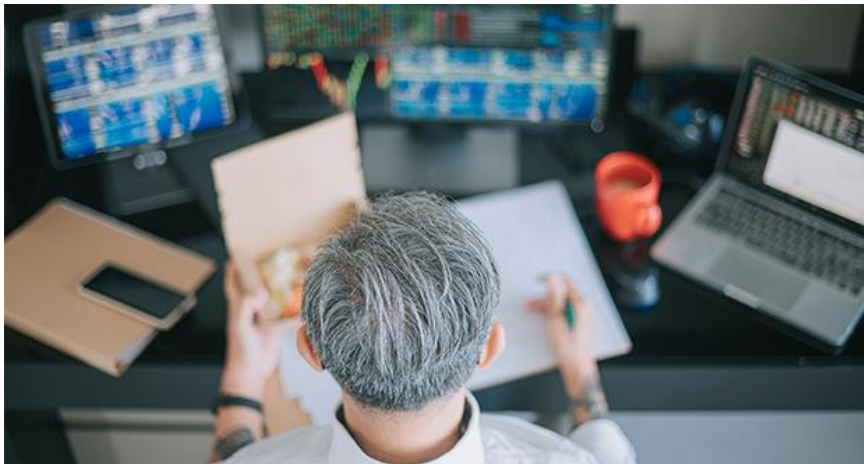


A greying digital nomad in the hybrid work world

Greg Whateley

October 2025



The challenge was laid down. I, a 'digital convict' (someone who reluctantly joined the digital revolution) wanted to experience the notion of being a digital nomad working from anywhere (WFA) and decided to choose a remote location (London) as part of the experiment – I use the term 'remote' loosely. This happened in July 2022 - and is about to happen again in October 2025.

Q. Why?

A. Because I could/can!

Q. And why London?

A. It was/is sufficiently far enough away to test the limits of the project (some 9 hours or so time difference) and further, what better place for a digital convict of British heritage.

Getting organised prior to departure

The adventure began with the careful inclusion of the essential technologies for the experiment – a laptop (with the appropriate accesses) - in this case a Lenovo Think Book 15 Gen 4; a Logitech wireless mouse and keyboard combination; a Logitech BCC950 Conference Camera; large event calendar (old school); iPhone; a notebook (also old school); a tri-screen; and a London underground mousepad (not essential, but provides great comfort when you are looking to find your way around the city).

In some ways so simple – despite having to jettison a few bits of clothing to ensure falling below the maximum baggage allowance – the preparation was very straightforward.



Getting organised on arrival

On arrival it was essential to quickly establish a workspace with good light and access. A reliable WIFI connection is crucial, and most rental apartments or hotels offer this, making it the top priority when choosing accommodation.

For an emergency scenario the closest WEWORK option was identified – *just in case*. These facilities are dotted throughout the CBD of London and provide a most useful fallback in case the planned resources cause any trouble. A virtual office will set you back about AUD\$500 a month – not a bad option to be honest - [Office Space for Rent in London | WeWork](#)



Getting your head around the time difference

Real time interaction was important - and this was achieved through email, sms, WhatsApp, TEAMS and Zoom. The immediacy of response was always impressive – and this made a major contribution to avoiding any sense of isolation.

This challenge was not particularly difficult – the constant reference to time calculation, on the other hand, was a minor challenge (at times annoying) – but quite doable. The laptop was set for Sydney/Melbourne time – and the mobile phone and apartment clock setting were London time. This assisted enormously.



Reflections of a new digital nomad

In all, the establishment of a workspace was very straightforward. Natural lighting is important, though this can be augmented with artificial lighting (lamps and the like) to quite a good level for video conferencing. Good speed WIFI is essential – and was in fact not an issue. Adjusting to the different time zone was also straightforward. Ideally landing in London on the weekend was a solid step. This gave time to adjust the body clock ready for operations on Monday morning. This is highly recommended.

In all – I highly recommend the notion of WFA. The life of a digital nomad is not as remote as first thought.



A curtain call

Once again – this time in October 2025 – I head back to the scene of the initial experience – London – albeit in a different suburb location.

On reflection there is not much I would change this time around. Pretty much the same gear (perhaps slightly newer models) – and the same reliance on good, dependable WIFI - which I have been promised by the digs in Chelsea.



Worth watching – Travelling with a greying digital nomad (MBA TV Aus) - [Travelling With A Greying Digital Nomad MBA TV AUS - Professor G](#)

Worth reading – WFA – Working from anywhere and the digital nomad – DN (Musicum20) - [Working From Anywhere](#)

Emeritus Professor Greg Whateley serves as Chief Executive and Executive Dean at the *Australian Guild of Education* (Melbourne) and is President of the *Musicum20* think-tank, which will host the 2025 Symposium in Greenwich, London.