# Librarians and journalists—Glenda James Audio transcript

Glenda: All of a sudden, a computer arrived. I would say that would have been about 1985. It was one computer that was located in the middle of the reading room. There was an exercise book beside it. We had access to Lexus-Nexus all of a sudden and to the National Library’s databases. But every time somebody used it, we had to record our usage in the exercise book. I don’t know what use was made of the exercise book, but certainly that was the record, that was the logbook.

It was still a case of everybody had a desk, their own desk. They had their own little file in the bottom drawer. I’m a real hoarder for newspaper clippings and newspaper articles and anything, because it might jog my memory. So I had a pretty big collection of material. The whole of the 1980’s it was still pre-everybody had a computer on their desk days.

Then there was room around the back of… oh, that’s right, that’s where the printer was. It was around the corner upstairs in the reading room. It was … unless you knew where it was, it was hard to find. But it was certainly a little nook where the printer was kept attached to the database. You could print off material there.

There was also a room where people… men used get their hair cut there, because someone was pretty good at cutting hair. There was a very fair little hair dressing salon set up there. You’d run around the back there to get your printing and you might bump into someone getting their hair cut.