

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS



Item 1

Do you remember when rooms in your house had picture rails running around the walls? This hook was used for hanging pictures, framed photographs and mirrors. We don't see such rails these days!

Item 2

A small penknife, probably kept in a lady's handbag for cutting things like fruit. But note the mother of pearl around the body. Mother of pearl was much used for decoration; not today.

Item 3

Fountain pen. Little used today; replaced by biros. Such pens these days are expensive status symbols if you want to make your mark when signing documents.

Item 4

This is an unusual electric plug made of wood. Were such plugs ever used in WA?

Item 5

What would these expanding tongs be used for? Picking up grapes, olives, or sugar cubes?

FOR THE MEN



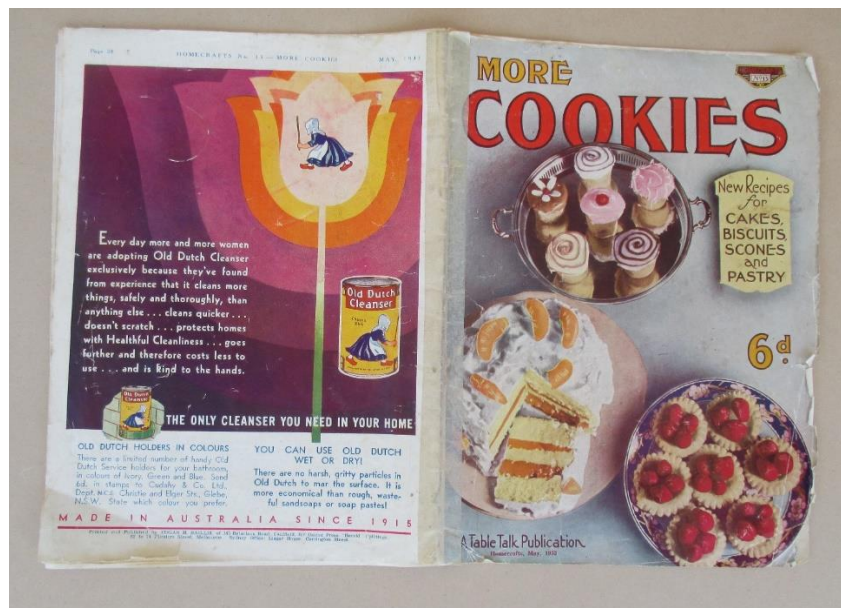
The brace, with drill bit, was in common use for drilling holes. Replaced largely by the hand drill which was easier to use. But now we have electric drills, with rechargeable batteries. How technology changes!

The cutthroat razor needed a good technique when shaving, to avoid cuts. It was extremely sharp! Note this one was from Murray Street in Perth. Replaced by the so-called safety razor with changeable blades. But now we have electric razors, with rechargeable batteries, which can even be used in the shower.

FOR THE LADIES



Do ladies still wear such girdles/suspender belts? Doubtful if stockings/nylons are the fashion with tights now so popular. This girdle is size 20, for that ample woman!



This magazine dates from 1933! It contains recipes for some delicious cakes. Do you recognise any of the adverts inside? At least one is still current!

SMOKING



Smoking was much more widespread in days gone by.

Item 1

A leather cigar case. But not for the fat Havana cigars.

Item 2

Tin of Capstan Navy Cut medium strength cigarettes. Probably 50 in the tin. Notice someone has used the tin for storing nails in their workshop!

Item 3

Silver cigarette case. THE way to offer your ciggies! It needs a good polish.

Item 4

Tin of Bell's waterproof wax vestas – matches. The base is for striking the matches.

Item 5

Remember that cigarette packets used to be sold with cards inside. Kids collected the cards into sets and put them in albums. Much swapping was done to get a full set of cars, ships, planes, football players, flowers (in this case), etc.

Item 6

Tin of snuff. Just a pinch up each nostril to get a nicotine “fix”. Don't open the box! The fine tobacco powder will go everywhere and all will start sneezing!

PHOTOGRAPHS



Most people would remember the Box Brownie camera which took a roll of film, had no lens focus and a winder to move the film forward. Once exposed, the film went to the local chemist's shop which organised developing and printing. The folder contained the negatives and prints.

The later Kodak Instamatic camera shown here took a film cassette which was inserted and then removed when all photos were taken. A lever moved the film forward but there was still a fixed focal lens.

35mm film produced slides, as shown on the left. These could be looked at in the simple viewer (batteries removed here). You might have had a projector with circular carousel, to run a film night, usually of your recent overseas holiday. One pitfall was to put the slide in the wrong way round, so it appeared upside down or back to front!

Digital cameras have now superseded the film cameras. And these days everyone uses their mobile phones to take photos or selfies which can be transmitted around the world instantly!

ENTERTAINMENT 1 SOUND



Item 1

The vinyl record. Early ones played at 78 rpm, like this one. Record players, particularly radiograms, were large pieces of furniture. Some had automatic operation: you could stack 5 or more records on the turntable and they would play automatically in sequence. Later vinyls played at 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ rpm – longer play time – or small vinyls at 45 rpm – a single pop tune, for example. Vinyls were easily scratched and lost favour. But now they have reappeared, as people think the sound they produce is the best quality.

Item 2

The cassette tape. It had a relatively brief life, being replaced by CDs and DVDs. If the tape became unwound, you used a pencil to rewind.

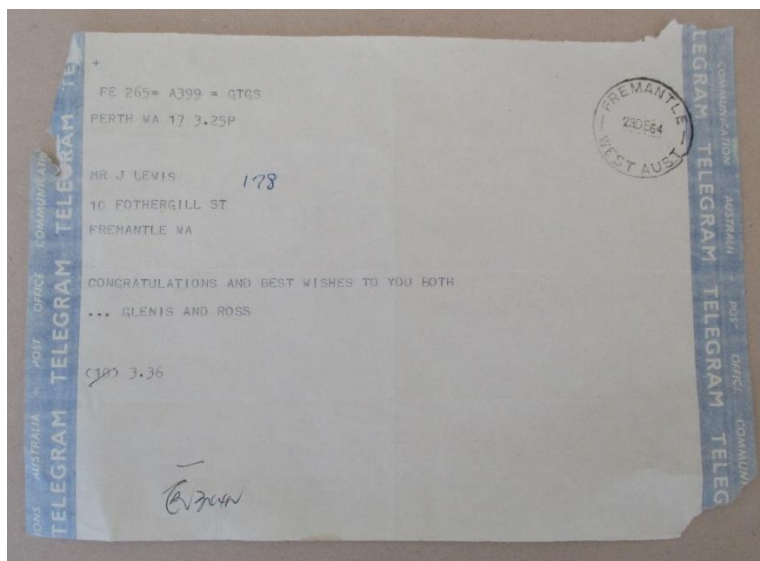
Item 3

Early valve radios were large and heavy. The advent of the transistor in the late 1950s revolutionized many electronic items, radios included. This example is light and easily carried around. Do you remember listening to the serials on the radio, like Blue Hills, in the 1950s?

COMMUNICATIONS



Most of us remember the dial telephone. This one has a key switch on it to prevent illegal use. The dial was replaced by push buttons. And later on, letters were added to the numerals. Then we moved on to handsets which could be used remotely. Now we use mobiles!



Remember telegrams? The way to send news if telephones weren't available. Often the news was sad. But this one (from 1964) is an example of best wishes that were read out by the Best Man at weddings!



The early typewriters were heavy machines. This one is portable. The ribbon had to be replaced when the carbon was exhausted. And if you made a typing mistake, you could white over it and retype, but if it was a legal document you had to retype the whole page! You could make copies by placing carbon paper between the sheets; a maximum of 4 copies but you had to hit the keys really hard! Typewriters then became electric and easier to use. The IBM Golf Ball typewriter was a revolution; you could exchange the golf ball to type different symbols. Now we use computers and software for all our typing.

Interestingly the latest mobile phones still use the QWERTY layout of keys.

ENTERTAINMENT 2 TELEVISIONS

(No, there's not a set in the Box!)



I remember b & w TVs in Britain in the early 1950s. Largish pieces of furniture with small screens. When we had visitors we'd place a large magnifying glass (on its stand) in front so the viewing was easier! Colour TV came in the 1960s. B & w TV came to Australia (Victoria) in 1956 for the Olympic Games. It wasn't until 1959 when Channel 7 started TV coverage in WA.

Modern TVs are so different with huge screens. And if you prefer you can watch programs on your mobile.

