

My First Job

I was born in 1934. I left school age 16 in 1950. I started work at the Westminster Bank (now Westminster bank joined with National Provincial bank - now NatWest) at South Kensington.



The Westminster Bank Logo

I got the job of junior - stamping letters and using sealing wax on parcels etc. In those days females had to wear overalls and were not allowed behind the counters. By the time I left 12 years later, we had one lady cashier - for emergencies!



A Westminster Bank cheque

I got the job through my school, the Barnes Convent, because banks thought convent girls were well behaved. In those days, stockings were hard to get so I was sent to Harrods (a bus ride away) to get nylons for the Managers' wives when we were told they had a delivery.

All the staff had to stay behind until all tills were balanced at the end of the day, even to the last halfpenny.

I enjoyed working there very much and left in 1963 to have my son.

Ann Engeham © 2011