



UNIVERSITY OF  
BIRMINGHAM

# Eating the elephant

Re-classification and preparation for  
a major library move

Frances Machell

Head of Collection Management

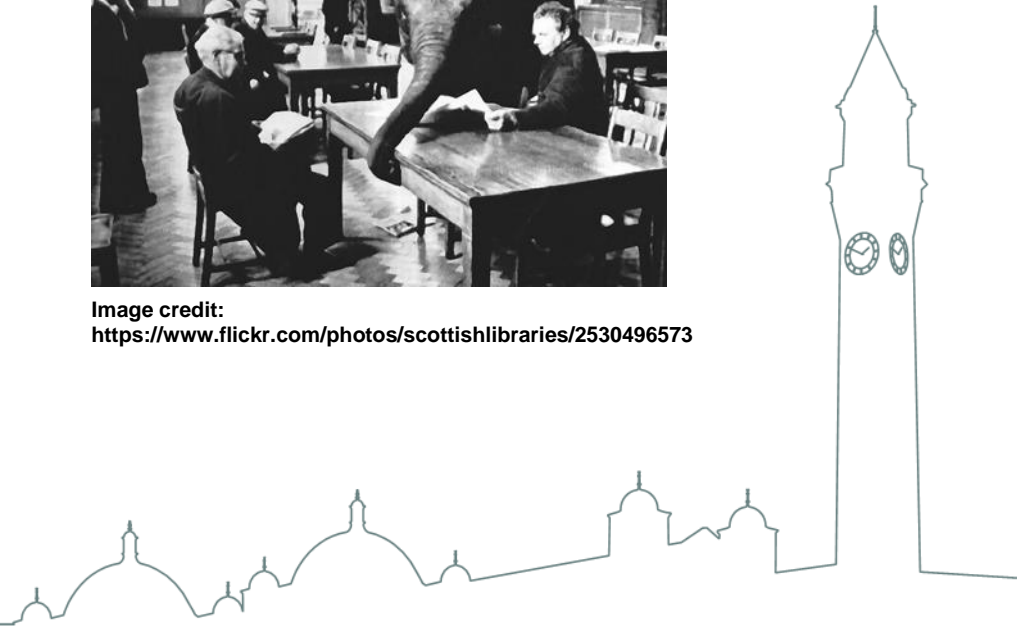


# Summary

- Background context
- Major decisions - policy and process
- What did we learn?
- Outcomes and benefits



Image credit:  
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/scottishlibraries/2530496573>





LIBRARY

LIBRARY CAFE

CULTURAL  
GATEWAY



**Upper floors: 20%  
Higher use collections, intended for  
browsing**

**Basement 'Research Reserve': 80%  
Low use/heritage collections with  
fetching service**

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# How big was our elephant?



## Integrating:

- 5 libraries plus stores
- 46,000 l/m stock
- c.2 million items

Image credit: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/cmav/8636738841/>



# Collections projects



Print journals  
review

May 2014  
- Sept 2015



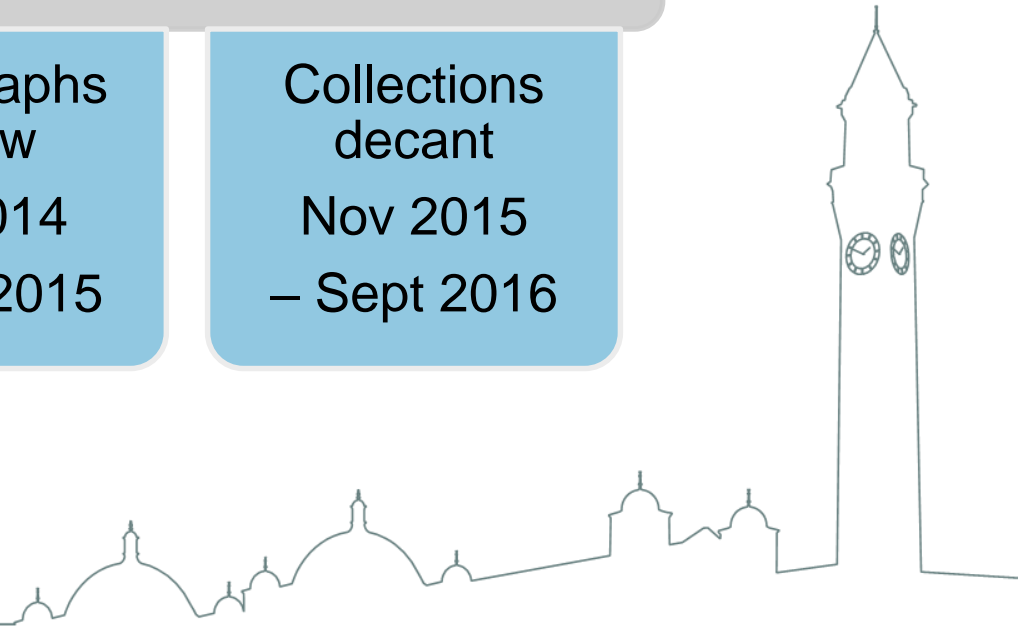
Monographs  
review

Oct 2014  
– Dec 2015



Collections  
decant

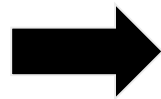
Nov 2015  
– Sept 2016



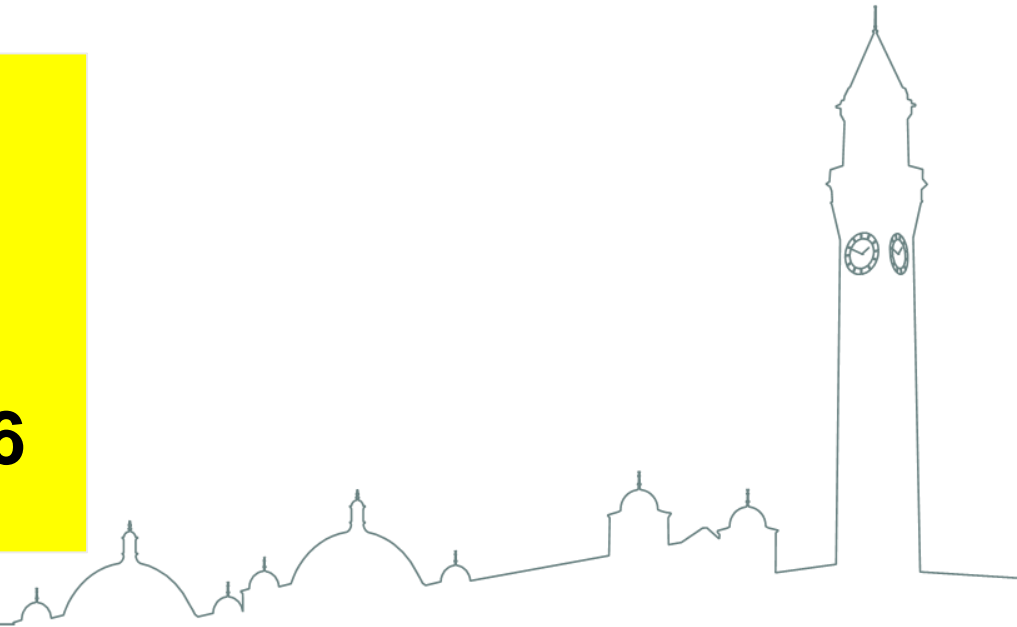
# Classification policy

- Harmonization, and
- Standardization

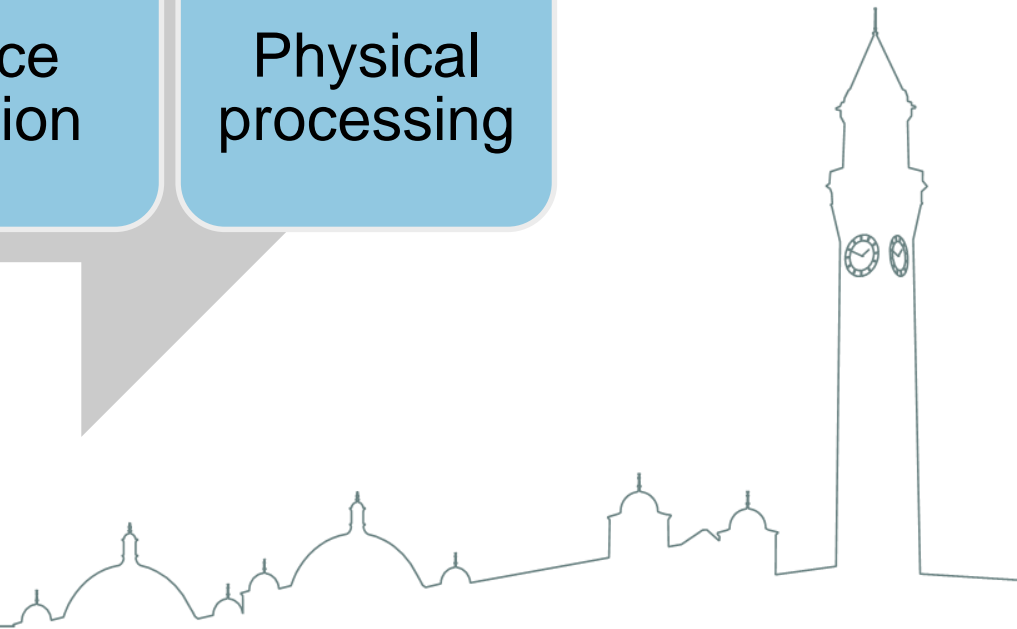
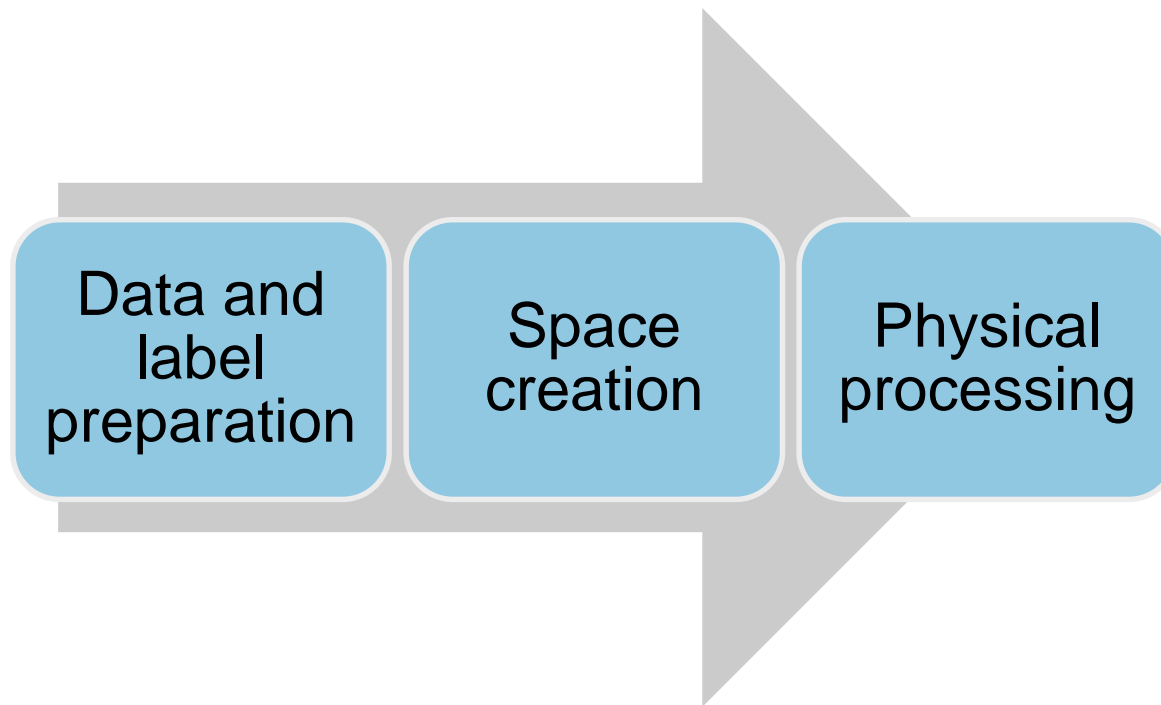
**LB**  
**1589**  
**.5**  
**.G7**  
**A**



**QA**  
**135**  
**.6**  
**.A546**



# Reclassification process





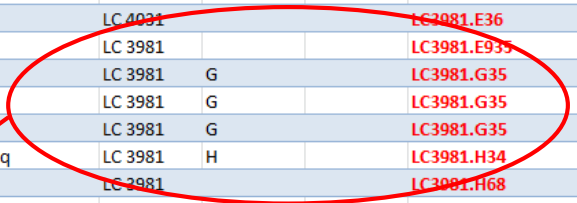
# Data work

Leader	<u>LDR</u>	---	----	^^^^cam^a2200205^a^4500
Control No.	<u>001</u>	---	----	000550204
Control No. ID	<u>003</u>	---	----	UkBU
Date and Time	<u>005</u>	---	----	20061027193420.0
Fixed Data	<u>008</u>	---	----	950326s1991^^^^xxua^^^^b^^^^000^0^eng
ISBN	<u>020</u>	---	a	0675212855
System No.	<u>035</u>	---	a	(UkBU)0675212855
System No.	<u>035</u>	---	a	(OCoLC)21974112
Local Call No.	<u>090</u>	---	a	LC3981
			b	.E935 1991
Main Title	<u>245</u>	<u>00</u>	a	Exceptional children in focus /
			c	James R. Patton ... (et al)..
Edition	<u>250</u>	---	a	5th ed.
Imprint	<u>260</u>	---	a	New York :
			b	Merrill ;
	<u>000</u>	---	---	-----
ISBN	<u>020</u>	---	a	0675212855
System No.	<u>035</u>	---	a	(UkBU)0675212855
System No.	<u>035</u>	---	a	(OCoLC)21974112
Local Call No.	<u>090</u>	---	a	LC3981
			b	.E935 1991
Main Title	<u>245</u>	<u>00</u>	a	Exceptional children in
			c	James R. Patton ... (et
	<u>050</u>	---	---	-----
			5	16691091
			8	19950326
			f	01
			F	Long loan

**ISBN**  
**System No.**  
**System No.**  
**Local Call No.**  
  
**Main Title**

# Data work

E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T
Title	Author	Edition	Publisher	Publication Date	Current Sub Library Desc	Format Desc	Item Status Desc	Process Status Desc	Collection	Prefix	Classmark	Suffix	ZONE	NEW LIBRARY CLASSMARK	Loans 01/08 23/04
7	Creating tomorrow's schools today : Teachers Cc			1996	Education Li	Books	Long loan	Not in Process			LC 3981			LC3981.C746	
9	Curriculum trends, special education Teachers Cc			1996	Education Li	Books	Long loan	Not in Process			LC 4031			LC3981.C87	
0	Educating all students in the mainstr	Brookes,		1989	Education Li	Books	Long loan	Not in Process			LC 4031			LC3981.E36	
5	Exceptional children in 15th ed.	Merrill ;		1991	Education Li	Books	Long loan	Not in Process			LC 3981			LC3981.E935	
7	Driving char	Gallagher, James John, 1	Paul H. Broc	2006	Education Li	Books	Week loan	Not in Process			LC 3981	G		LC3981.G35	
7	Driving char	Gallagher, James John, 1	Paul H. Broc	2006	Education Li	Books	Long loan	Not in Process			LC 3981	G		LC3981.G35	
7	Driving char	Gallagher, James John, 1	Paul H. Broc	2006	Education Li	Books	Long loan	Not in Process			LC 3981	G		LC3981.G35	
2	Exceptional Hallahan, Di 12th ed., Pe	Pearson,		2014	Education Li	Books	Long loan	Not in Process		q	LC 3981	H		LC3981.H34	
X	The Ethics o	Howe, Kenneth R. (Kenr	Teachers Cc	1992	Education Li	Books	Long loan	Not in Process			LC 3981			LC3981.H68	
2	Inclusion :		Paul H. Broc	1996	Education Li	Books	Long loan	Not in Process			LC 3981			LC3981.I637	
														LC3981.I637	
														LC3981.K53	
														LC3981.L43	
														LC3981.M47	
														LC3981.R87	
														LC3981.S56	
														LC3981.S58	
														LC3981.S58	
														LC3981.S594	
														LC3981.Y87	
														LC3986.A2N49	
														LC3986.G7.D85	
														LC3986.G7.E3	
														LC3986.G7.H86	
														LC3986.G7.H86	
														LC3986.G7.H86	



11	Meeting SEL Pract. Dilun		David Fulton	2005	Education Li	Books	Long loan	Not in Process			LC 3986.G7.H			LC3986.G7.H86	
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# Space creation

- ❑ Most journals into off-site commercial storage
- ❑ Replaced by ILL
- ❑ Remaining journals consolidated



# Physical processing

- Enter Backstage Library Works



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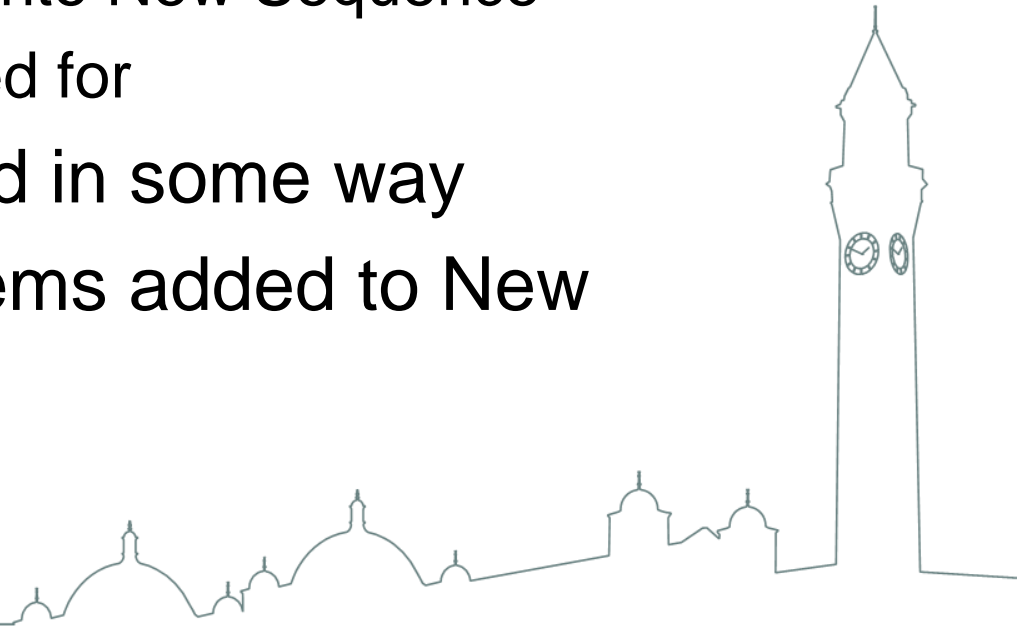
# Physical processing

- LMS updates
- Trapping items (“New Sequence Missing”)
- Re-spacing
- Internal comms



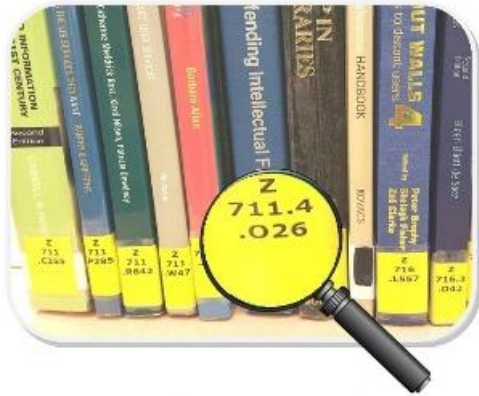
# Outcomes

- Backstage (most done in 12 weeks, July-Oct):
  - 174,007 items reclassified
  - 255,600 items moved into New Sequence
  - 292,986 items searched for
- 550,000+ items moved in some way
- Since Oct, 15,000+ items added to New Sequence

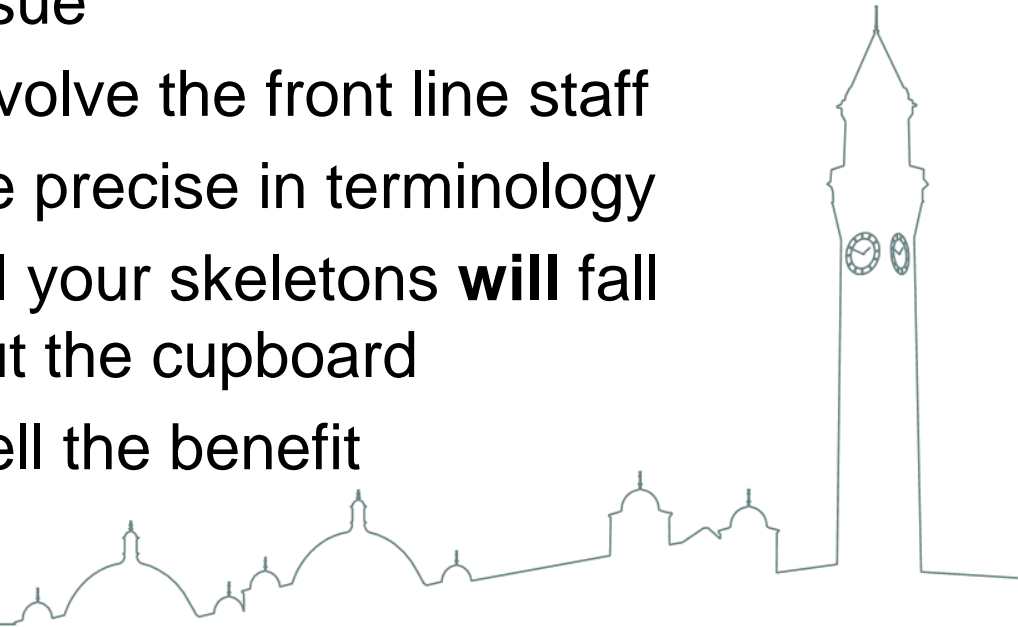


# What did we learn?

All your course books in  
one place...



- ❑ It can be done
- ❑ Collections change has to be treated as a service wide issue
- ❑ Involve the front line staff
- ❑ Be precise in terminology
- ❑ All your skeletons **will** fall out the cupboard
- ❑ Sell the benefit



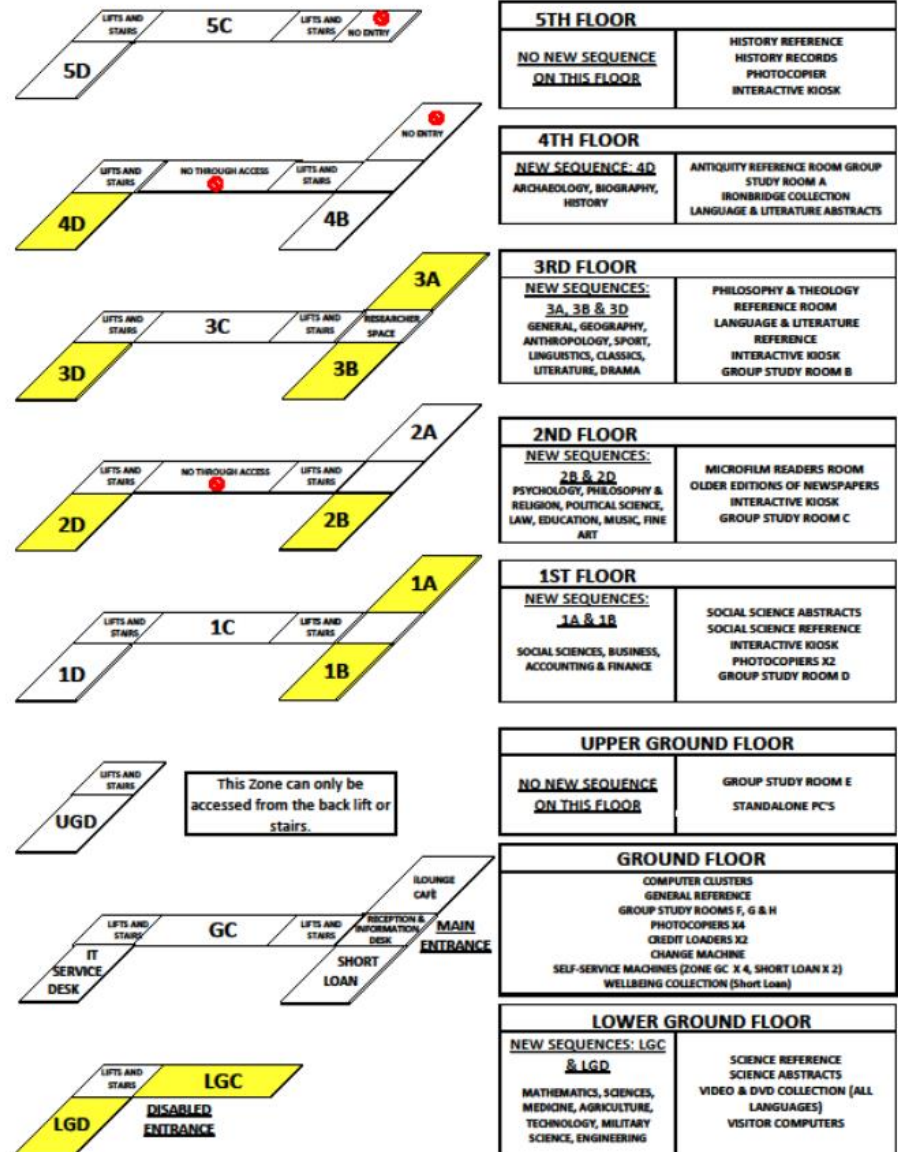
# Outcomes

- Library Services:
  - Easier decant
  - Test our criteria
  - Efficient procurement
- Library users:
  - Higher use books together
  - More consistency and precision



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## ARRANGEMENT OF THE MAIN LIBRARY





# Questions?

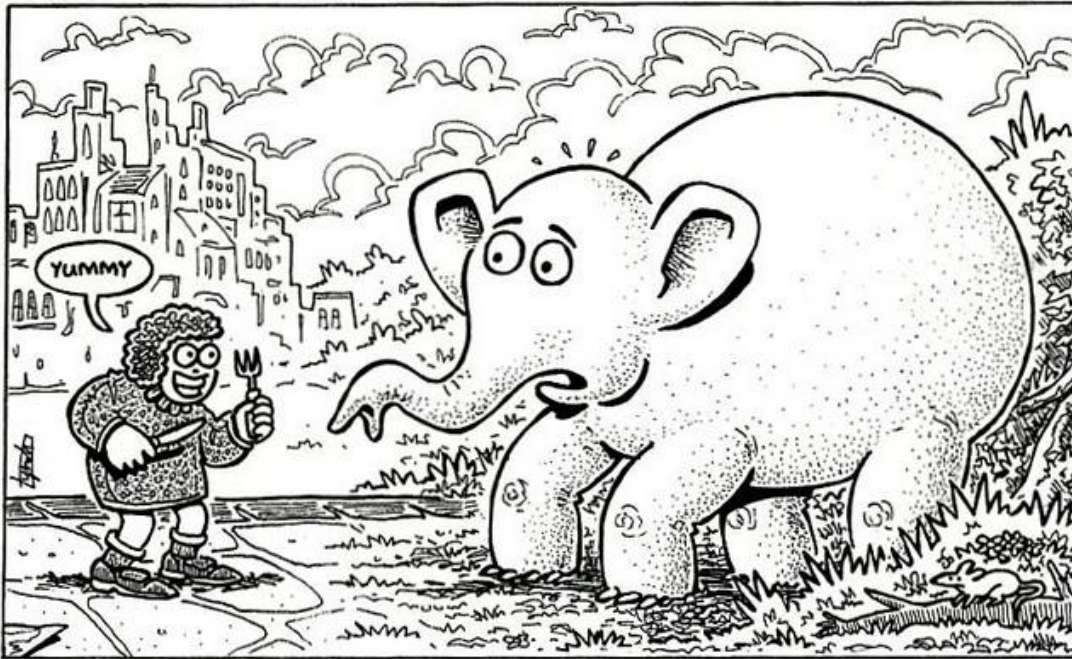


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Email: [f.e.machell@bham.ac.uk](mailto:f.e.machell@bham.ac.uk)

