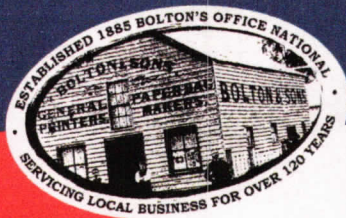


Celebrating **120**
years 1885-2005
of business in Bendigo



Bolton's

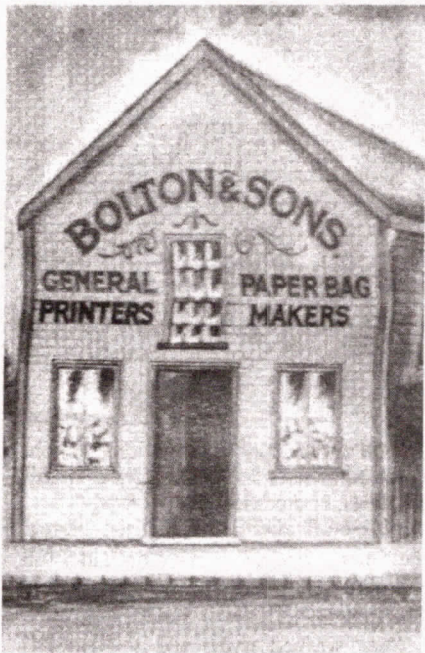
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SERVING BENDIGO AND CENTRAL VICTORIA SINCE 1885
The Advertiser



Celebrating 120 years



A great milestone

AS Bolton's celebrates yet another milestone in our local history we take the opportunity to reflect on five generations who helped mould our community.

The local Boltons story began with the immigration of Benjamin Bolton, his wife and eight children. Benjamin was a printer who reportedly looked to widen the horizons and opportunities of his family.

Out of a number of possible destinations including Kansas, Canada, New Zealand and Queensland, the Boltons decided to emigrate to Victoria. It was considered most like their British homeland.

After selling a small printing business and all the household possessions at a bargain price, the Bolton family set sail for Australia in July 1883.

After 84 days at sea in a voyage that saw gales, sleet, hail and even ice bergs, the Boltons and other passengers on the "Ivanhoe" arrived in Australia.

And so began the story of Bolton's in Bendigo, a history which spans 120 years




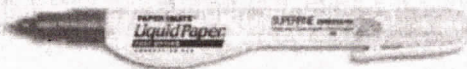



Benjamin Bolton

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- 
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Celebrating 120 years

From Bristol by sailing ship

An article which was published in The Bendigo Advertiser on Wednesday July 9, 1969.

The emigration agent produced a list of sailings which read as follows:

"To sail for Melbourne, Australia, on the 17th July, 1883 from S.W. India Dock, London, the fast barque-rigged clipper ship "Ivanhoe", 1352 tons. First cabin 56 pounds, second 22 pounds, third 15 pounds, children under 14 half-fare, under 12 months free."

The dissatisfied Britisher was invited to make a choice between NSW, Queensland and Victoria. At this time, Victoria has suspended assistance to immigrants: but the other states continued to offer half fares of approved immigrants.

Victoria made no promises of help of any kind. Their invitation was simply "Come at your own expense and you'll never regret it. Good wages, shorter hours, warmer climate, ample food, low cost of living, land at 1 pound per acre, payable at 1/- per acre per annum free of interest."

No industrial immigrant could quarrel with a 50-hour week instead of a 60-hour week: and they appreciated the difference between artisan's wages at about 26/- per week in English cities and 50/- in Australia.

The Bolton family listened. Benjamin Bolton was married with eight children. The youngest, George, was three months old. The eldest William was 15 years of age. Their home town was Bristol.

Benjamin Bolton was a printer.

He looked to a wider future for his boys. A council of war consisting of the parents

and two elder boys, William and Arthur was held.

But, after mature deliberations - Kansas and the cowboys, Canada and the grizzly bears, New Zealand and the volcanoes, Queensland and the crocodiles, though offering great possibilities for adventure, were scrapped in favour of Victoria. Victoria was a country more like home, and 98 percent British.

Hurried preparations were made, household goods and the small printing business were sacrificed at half price, and the train taken to London a week before sailing time.

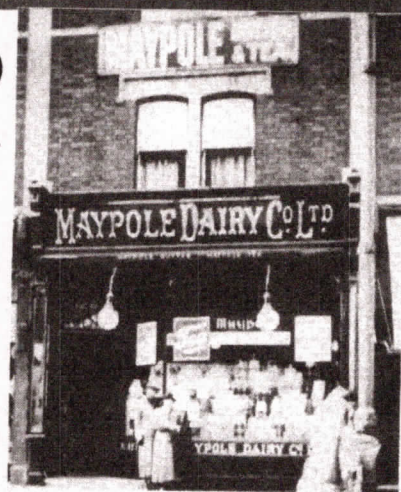
These were stirring and sad days. The Boltons were emigrating. The ship was timed to leave at 3pm Friday, the 17th, July 1883. Most of the passengers were there at 2pm, determined not to miss the boat.

Three hours and a severe hailstorm later, a bedraggled lot walked up the short ladder and stepped on deck. Their berths were not quite ready. The carpenters were still building them amongst the cargo between decks.

The common dining and living rooms for each class of passengers - second and third - consisted of a passage between the cabins with a long deal table in the centre, and fixed forms on either side, without backs.

The cargo was prevented from toppling over and breaking into the cabins by Oregon beams and flooring boards.

The second day they were tugged down



LOU and Lil (July 1836) standing in front of Benjamin's first printing shop in East Street, Bedminster, Bristol

the Thames and got a move on under full sail past the cliffs of Dover before sunset. The first day at sea was Sunday.

Seas washed over, and the railings dipped under continuously. On the leeward side the sea appeared like a wall of water ready to fall mercilessly on the deck and blot everything out of existence.

After three days of intermittent meals, dispensed by the steward and his assistant, the third-mate distributed a week's provisions to each mess.

The stores distributed consisted of beef, mutton, butter and hydrated potatoes in tins, salted pork, beef and fish from casks, rice, oatmeal, flour, beans, peas, raisins, spices, salt, sugar, tea, coffee and lime juice.

A barrel of sea biscuits and a barrel of drinking water stood, well-lashed, in the corners of the dining room. Both barrels always remained well-filled.

DM DARRYN MAWBY

Darryn Mawby and Associates have been clients for over 14 years and wish to congratulate David, Rod and the team at Boltons on their 120 year anniversary.

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Celebrating 120 years

Nobody wanted more than his share! The water had a stale rusty flavour and had to be helped down with a dash of lime juice or other cordial.

The biscuits had to be broken into pieces by a tomahawk or the heel of a boot before being placed in the mouth where they would remain insoluble for hours.

Passengers numbered 50 in all. Not souls - passengers, because under fourteen you counted as "a half". And 50 was the limit which ships were allowed to carry without employing a doctor.

Health inspections had been rather lax. You simply walked past the doctor before going on board, and that was the beginning and end of the examination under the emigration health regulations.

A special feature of the ship's travelling was its capacity for rolling from side to side.

The passengers never got used to it, and were continually dreading that the next roll would be the last.

Then came an equinoxial gale, and for

two days and two nights, the passengers were battened down almost in darkness except for the light of a few candles in buggy lamp sockets, oil lamps not being considered safe.

No communication with the upper deck was possible for fear of the seas which covered the deck incessantly. It was impossible to cook food or boil the water.

The adults moved about in silence, and the children watched for the rats to climb the ladder steps and gnaw through the 8-inch decks to leave the sinking ship. The fact that they didn't restore passenger confidence.

At the end of the second day, a part of the battened hatchway was lifted and a couple of buckets of potatoes, boiled in their skins, were lowered on a rope.

Released on the third day, the Boltons were staggered at what they saw. Torn sails, broken rigging, deck cargo gone overboard, sailors injured, ropes attached to the bridge and the wheel - evidence that the captain, officers and helmsmen had

tied themselves to their posts.

One half of the ship's company was temporarily disabled - but none had been lost. However, one sailor lost his reason and had to be put in irons.

One of the passengers brought up his luggage and solemnly begged to be put ashore on the nearest land.

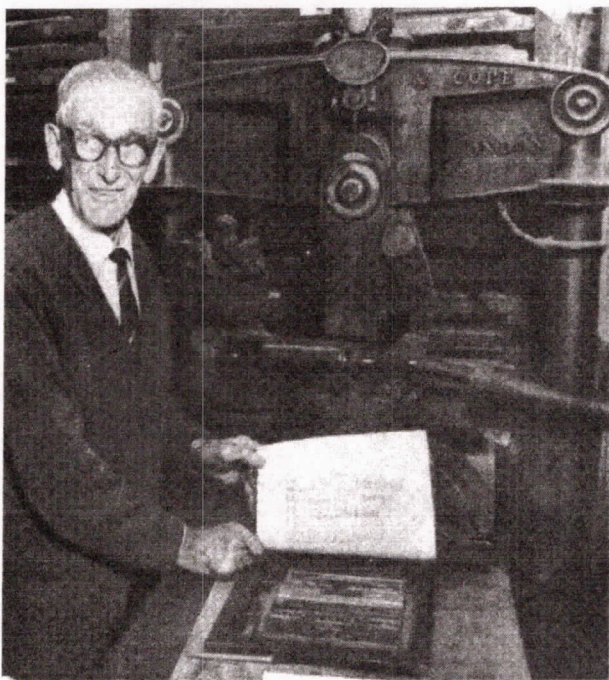
The captain regretted - but the nearest land was South Africa, 600 miles aft.

A week later, the ship got down to 45 degrees south and picked up the westerlies - and with it hail, snow, sleet and icebergs. For a month or so, more even and steady running was made, until the time came to watch for land.

On the morning of the 84th day at 10am, Cape Otway appeared like a cloud on the horizon. Land-ho!

Sailing along the coast toward Port Phillip heads, the pilot boarded at 5pm. Before midnight the vessel rode at anchor off Williamstown. The journey had ended. The ship was safely in port.

The Boltons had arrived in Australia.



THIS old Caxton-type hand press was part of the original Bolton printing works in Bristol and came out to Australia with the family over 80 years ago. Mr George Bolton was a baby in arms when he sailed for Australia on the Ivanhoe in 1883.

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Strength to strength

FROM humble beginnings in 1885, Bolton's has moved from strength to strength, and director David Bolton says "they have never lost sight of where

they began and what it has taken to get to where they are today".

Bolton's joined forces with the national buying group Office National several years ago to consolidate and reinforce their market positioning today. After taking on a new partner almost 12 months ago, Bolton's Office National has undertaken a total operating standards and systems review in preparation for the company's projected future growth.

Standing by the traditional values and service standards that have paved the way for 120 years of successful operation, joint directors David Bolton and Rod



David with joint director Rod McCredden



David Bolton

McCredden are committed to driving the business through to the next generation of ownership and beyond.

The two directors have been busy planning and laying the foundation for the business to continue to thrive into the future.

Continued overleaf



Well done!

Congratulations
on 120 years of valuable service,
we look forward to the
continued outstanding success of
Bolton's Office National



Celebrating 120 years



WILLIAM Bolton was only 15 years old when he arrived in Australia

The Boltons in Bendigo

ONCE in Bendigo, Benjamin and his two eldest sons, William and Arthur, began a printing business known as Bolton & Sons, on March 25, 1885.

The location of the original printing business was in High Street and was later moved to Williamson Street where the name underwent a change to Bolton Bros and expanded into manufacturing paper bags and other stationery lines.

It wasn't until 1902 that the

business moved to 43 Mitchell Street which housed the retail stationery department and the main office, while the printing factory was on the second and third floors. Next door, at 47 Mitchell Street, the wholesale division and machine service department operated.

The hardworking William, Arthur and their sons travelled throughout central and northern Victoria selling their own products and representing other companies.



ARTHUR Bolton, second son of Benjamin

Continued overleaf

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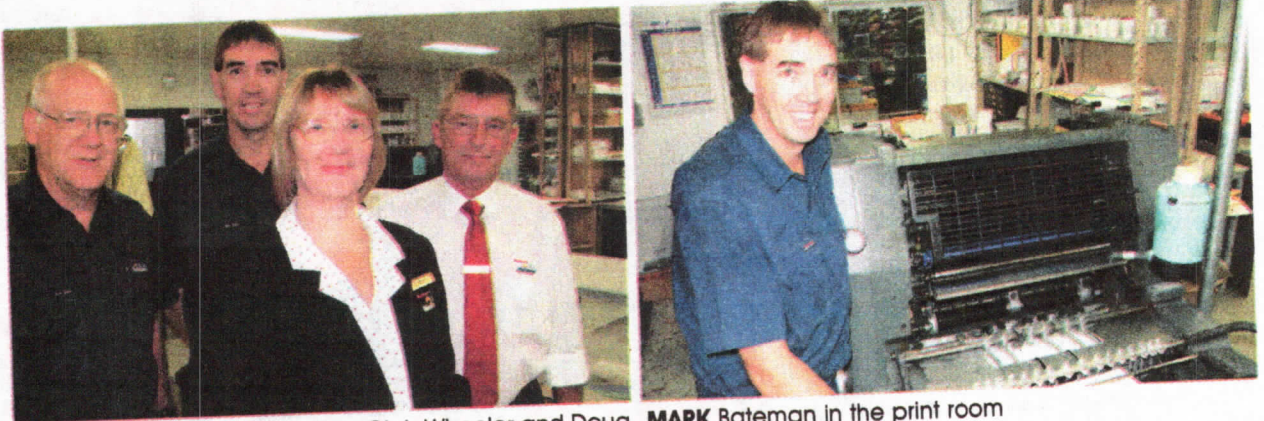
Leaving a mark

ONE of the hidden treasures of Bolton's is the print department, where blank pieces of paper are transformed by the experienced and efficient print team.

From full colour to black on white, Bolton's has a print solution for every client. Foreman Mark Bateman has been with Bolton's for nearly 20 years, and has seen a big change in his chosen field.

"Our industry has really been hit in the most part by the SOHO (small office/home office) revolution," he says.

"With people printing their own letterheads and invitations, the basic



DOUG Harrison, Mark Bateman, Chris Wheeler and Doug **MARK** Bateman in the print room Peck from the print department

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Congratulates Bolton's Office National on this great achievement - Happy Birthday!

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- Red office chair: \$75
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- Wooden desk with computer: \$189
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Sylex Furniture - 403 Flemington Rd, North Melbourne



Celebrating 120 years

PAGE 33

offset stuff has been pushed aside. This process though is quite pricey, so for the bigger jobs, we still have the edge."

Offset still makes up a large percentage of total print revenue Australia wide, and with smaller jobs being handled by the home printer, larger jobs have formed a very competitive market.

"Years ago, you could have got three or four times the price for the same job as you get now," Mark says.

"The whole industry got a shake up, and realistically, we had to be at the cutting edge price and quality wise"

Amazingly, in spite of the competitive nature of the market, Bolton's has had to expand and employ extra staff to cope with demand.

"Doug Harrison, formerly of Harrison Print, (another long time

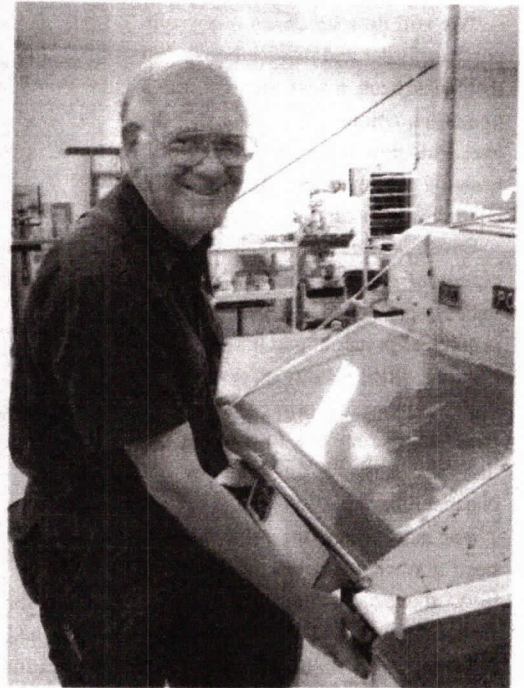
printer around the area) is a huge acquisition for us," Mark says.

"His knowledge and experience has certainly given us another thread to our bow"

The print team at Bolton's believes that, in real terms, printing is all about three things - service, price and quality. With the service component well taken care of, Mark says that continually competitive pricing and a guaranteed level of quality fulfill the pricing motto.

"Our pricing has continued to stand the test of time, and, at the end of the day, if you can't back up the prices with a quality product, you end up losing clients," he says.

Continued overleaf



DOUG Harrison

The Advertiser congratulates
Bolton Brothers
on 120 years of service
to the community.

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Celebrating 120 years

The Bolton's family



L-R: Doug Harrison, Mark Bateman and Doug Peck



L-R: John Hurle operations manager, Paul Conolan, Alan Yorston and Ross Carland



Richmond Sinnott & Delahunty

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Richmond Sinnott & Delahunty are proud to be involved in providing accounting services to Bolton's Office National.

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