



**nextScan** *Eclipse – a case study...*

## Eclipse Scans History Down Under

*Service provider W & F Pascoe Pty Ltd converts Australian historical documents for online availability*

### About Pascoe

W. & F. Pascoe Pty. Ltd. was founded in 1957 by brothers Wilfrid and Frank Pascoe. The Pascoes elected from the start to specialize in the microfilming of newspapers, periodicals and manuscript type material, and over the past years have established a close working relationship with the major libraries around Australia. Today, a significant part of our output is in the area of preservation microfilming and microfilm digitization. Libraries look to preservation microfilming as their long term secure storage medium. (Polyester film has a life expectancy of 500 years in suitable storage conditions). Having invested in high tech digital equipment in recent years, we feel that we have successfully integrated both analogue and digital areas of our organization. W. & F. Pascoe has always been a family owned company, although the founder brothers have passed away. Wilfrid's son Michael Pascoe is now at the head of the company. He is no less dedicated than his father to quality and service in the library movement. [www.pascoe.com.au](http://www.pascoe.com.au)

### About nextScan

Incorporated in 2002, nextScan is providing the next generation in film scanning technology. nextScan was established to give the microfilm conversion market an alternative to today's 5 to 8 year old rollfilm scanner designs, as well as provide the support they require for success. Designed with the latest in camera, lighting, chip and software technology, nextScan scanners far exceed the quality, speed and reliability of other products on the market, increasing production and lowering cost for customers scanning film in many different industries. nextScan is privately held and headquartered in Eagle, Idaho.

For additional information, visit [www.nextscan.com](http://www.nextscan.com) or call Erin Dempsey at (910) 483-0638.

Founded in 1957, W & F Pascoe Pty Ltd of Sydney began as a specialist in the preservation microfilming of Australian newspapers, periodicals and manuscripts. Initially working with a few newspapers and libraries, Pascoe now works with the majority of major libraries and newspapers in the country. In the last few years, these various organizations, to include the National and State Libraries and the one of the largest newspapers, have expressed the desire to convert this storage medium into digital files that can be made accessible to users online with full-text search.

Said Alan Clarke, Director of Digital Imaging for Pascoe, "We were initially approached by a major newspaper to convert all of their front pages for the last 60 years and make them available online as a service to readers. This was an interesting project as it would enable people to search for the major news of the day for any given date in the last 60 years. We knew that these images had to be of the best quality. Bitonal scanning was not going to work – it had to be grayscale at 400 dpi. That is a huge job which normally would be so time intensive on the scan side that no one could justify the cost. I certainly couldn't justify it using my one older Sunrise scanner. My initial thought was that there is no scanner out there that can handle this type of work!"

Said Alan "When I discovered that the Eclipse production rollfilm scanner from nextScan can scan grayscale and bitonal images at 300 ppm for 200 dpi, we knew this job could be done in a flash. As it turns out, Eastman Kodak Company is nextScan's authorized reseller and service provider for Australia. nextScan scanners are the only film scanners that are not manufactured by Kodak that feature a Kodak logo – another huge endorsement of the quality of the product. I called Kodak and bought one."

The project for this major newspaper included 1500 rolls of film that covered front pages for 1945 through 2000. Scanned at 400 dpi grayscale, the Eclipse was able to get the job done quickly and accurately. The results were so good, there is now talk of a 2 million page conversion project for newspapers dating back to the 1800's.

## About Eastman Kodak Company

Kodak is nextScan's authorized reseller and service provider for selected European regions, the Middle East, Africa and parts of Asia. Kodak is the leader in helping people take, share, print and view images – for memories, for information, for entertainment. The company is a major participant in infoimaging, a \$385 billion industry composed of devices (digital cameras and flat-panel displays), infrastructure (online networks and delivery systems for images) and services & media (software, film and paper enabling people to access, analyze and print images).

With sales of \$12.8 billion in 2002, the company comprises several businesses: Health, supplying the healthcare industry with traditional and digital image capture and output products and services; Commercial Printing, offering on-demand colour printing and networking publishing systems; Commercial Imaging, offering image capture, output and storage products and services to businesses and government; Display & Components, which designs and manufactures state-of-the-art organic light-emitting diode displays as well as other specialty materials, and delivers optics and imaging sensors to original equipment manufacturers; and Digital & Film Imaging Systems, providing consumers, professionals and cinematographers with digital and traditional products and services. [www.kodak.com/go/docimaging](http://www.kodak.com/go/docimaging).

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"Before the Eclipse, we were using an older SunRise scanner for some conversion. We would have to charge extra for work that required grayscale images because it was so time consuming. Now we can take on grayscale or bitonal conversion projects without having to up the price," said Alan. "In addition, we can take on more work because the Eclipse is so fast. Not just the scan speed – the Fusion software that comes with the scanner is so user friendly with its interface that allows real-time viewing of adjustments, that the scan setup and processing takes only a few seconds. The images produced are of such quality that our customers are able to OCR the images for full text search capability."

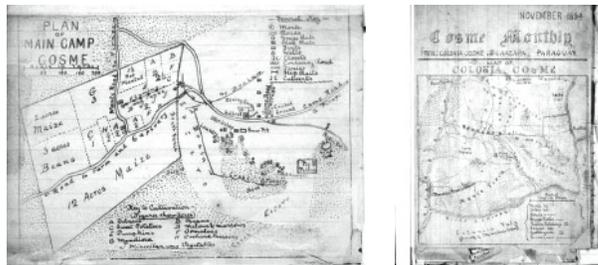
Said Alan, "That older SunRise? It broke right after we received delivery of the Eclipse! The good news is that I plan to move on to nextScan's Phoenix – their product designed to fit within the housing of older, unsupported SunRise scanners. This will enable me to scan at 220 ppm, grayscale or bitonal, with the same excellent technology used in the Eclipse. In addition, it comes with the Fusion software. I've seen the new SunRise software, and it just doesn't come close to Fusion's capabilities."

To view some historical images from the late 1800's, scanned by the Eclipse and made available online from the State Library of New South Wales, click below:

<http://image.sl.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/ebindshow.pl?doc=a3306/a510;thumbs=1>

<http://image.sl.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/ebindshow.pl?doc=mss7312/a883;thumbs=1>

1894 scanned images from Cosme Monthly:



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