

# OUR CONNECTED COUNTRY

## FROM TELEGRAPH, TO TELEPHONY AND BEYOND

The way Australian homes and businesses have connected has come a long way since the early days of a horseman galloping to deliver a message. Here is a snapshot of how we communicate has changed over the years:

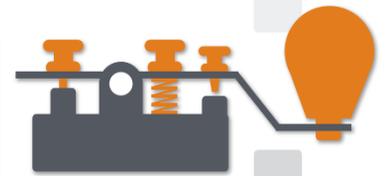
Permanent European settlers arrive in Australia. Messages and letters delivered by horse

1788



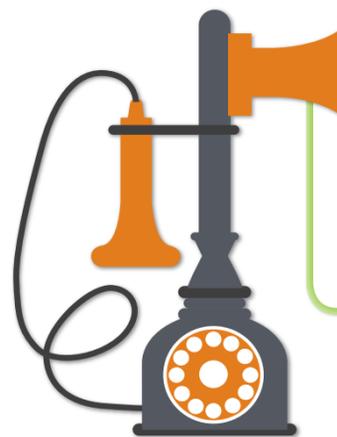
1854

First telegraph message sent along 10km line between Melbourne and Williamstown



Beginning of large-scale rollout of copper telecommunications network connects Australia to telephone services

1945



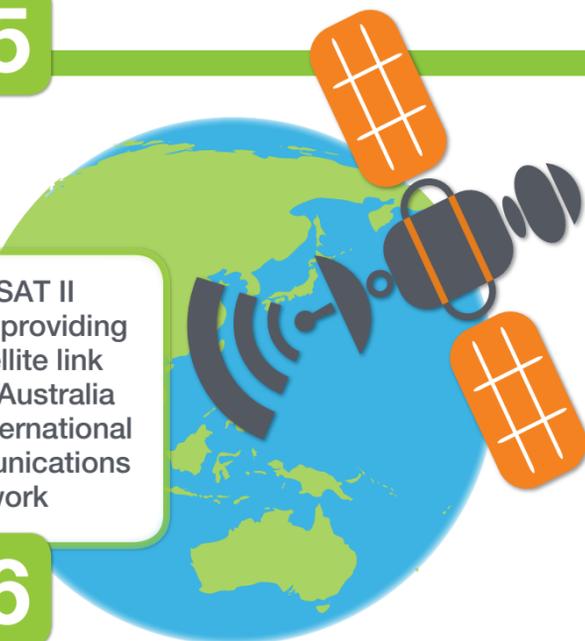
Australia's first telephone exchanges open in Melbourne and Brisbane

1880

1966

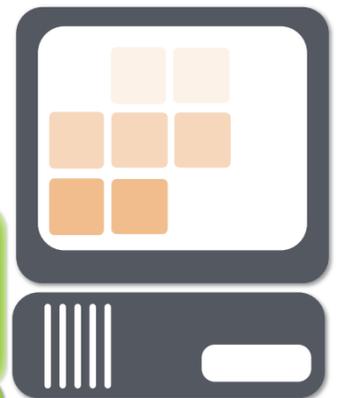
INTELSAT II launched, providing first satellite link between Australia and the international telecommunications network

1966



Australians start connecting to the internet via dial-up services

1990s



First consumer ADSL services made available via Telstra

2000



Five CSIRO scientists invent wireless LAN technology, now known as WiFi

1992



2011

School children in New South Wales and Tasmania sing in virtual concert to celebrate the city of Armidale, NSW becoming the first centre in mainland Australia to be connected to the NBN



First locations around Australia completely switch over to the NBN

2014

Townsville, Qld  
Armidale, NSW  
Kiama, NSW  
Willunga, SA  
Brunswick, Vic  
South Morang, Vic  
Sorell, Tas  
Deloraine, Tas  
St Helens, Tas  
Triabunna, Tas  
George Town, Tas  
Kingston Beach, Tas



The NBN is the first nationwide upgrade of its kind to Australia's fixed-line telecommunications system in over 100 years. Whether you're old or young or in the city or in the bush, the NBN can open up opportunities for all Australians to participate in the digital economy.