

There are many misconceptions one might have about what goes on in a printery. Production manager at Park Douglas Printing Nick Smith has heard them all before.

"I once had a friend ask me what I was wearing," he laughs.

"I had walked in wearing my work clothes and she asked me where my suit was. She thought I just pressed a button and that was the job done."

While pressing buttons is certainly a part of Nick's job, the every day reality at Park Douglas is realms away from the swankiness of the corporate world.

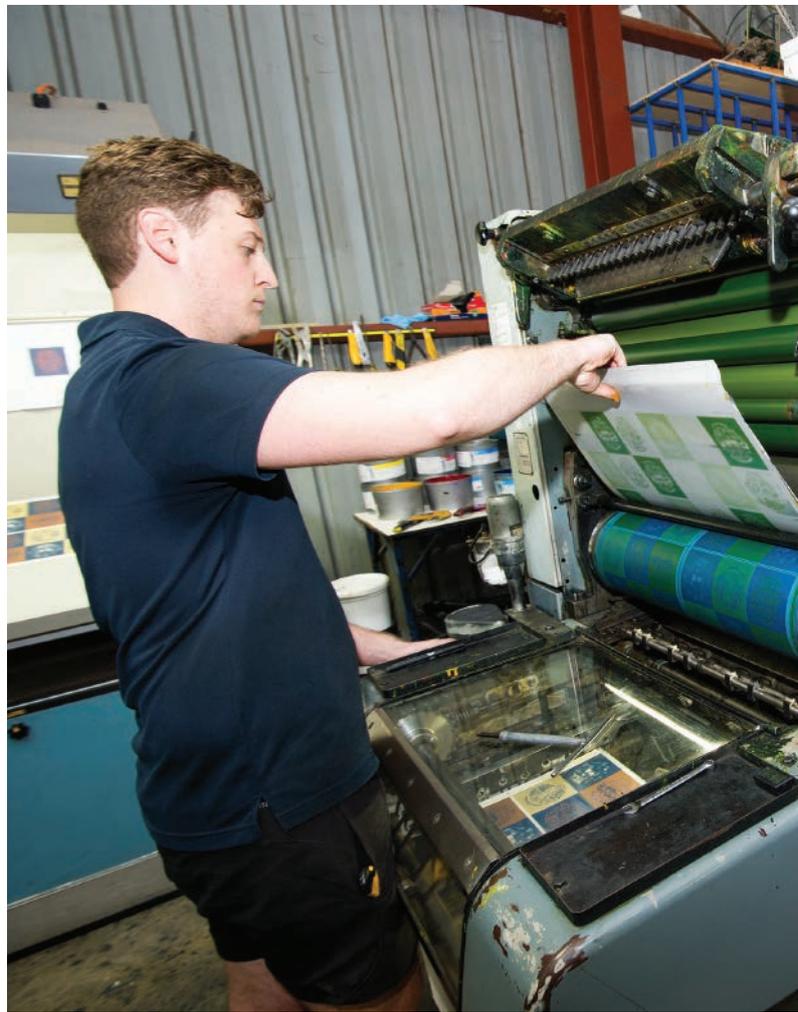
"I start at six in the morning and it's about an hour and a half until I get a finished print," Nick explains.

"The actual printing usually only takes around 20 minutes, so it's about four and a half hours of work to just get that window of opportunity.

"The printing is actually the easiest part."

The first hours of the day are spent loading Nick's treasured 1978 SOLNA four-colour printing press up with ink, lining up images his brother Chris has organised in the pre-press department and making any necessary tweaks.

The specially imported Swedish coaster board called "beermat" is then cut to fit the press, and fed into the machine's mechanism.



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