

WESTPAC BANKING CORP  
Form 6-K  
August 18, 2005

## **FORM 6-K**

# **SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, DC 20549

### **Report of Foreign Issuer**

**Pursuant to Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16 of  
the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

August 18, 2005

## **WESTPAC BANKING CORPORATION**

(Translation of registrant's name into English)

**60 MARTIN PLACE, SYDNEY, NEW SOUTH WALES 2000, AUSTRALIA**

(Address of principal executive offices)

[Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover of Form 20-F or Form 40-F.]

Form 20-F

Form 40-F

[Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by furnishing the information contained in this form is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Act of 1934.]

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Yes

No

[If Yes is marked, indicate the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b):82- ]

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**Index to Exhibits**

<b>Exhibit No.</b>	<b>Description</b>
1	<b>Issue of shares pursuant to exercise of employee share plan option (May).</b>

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

WESTPAC BANKING CORPORATION  
(Registrant)

Date: August 18, 2005

By: /s/ Manuela Adl  
Manuela Adl  
SVP & Chief Operating Officer