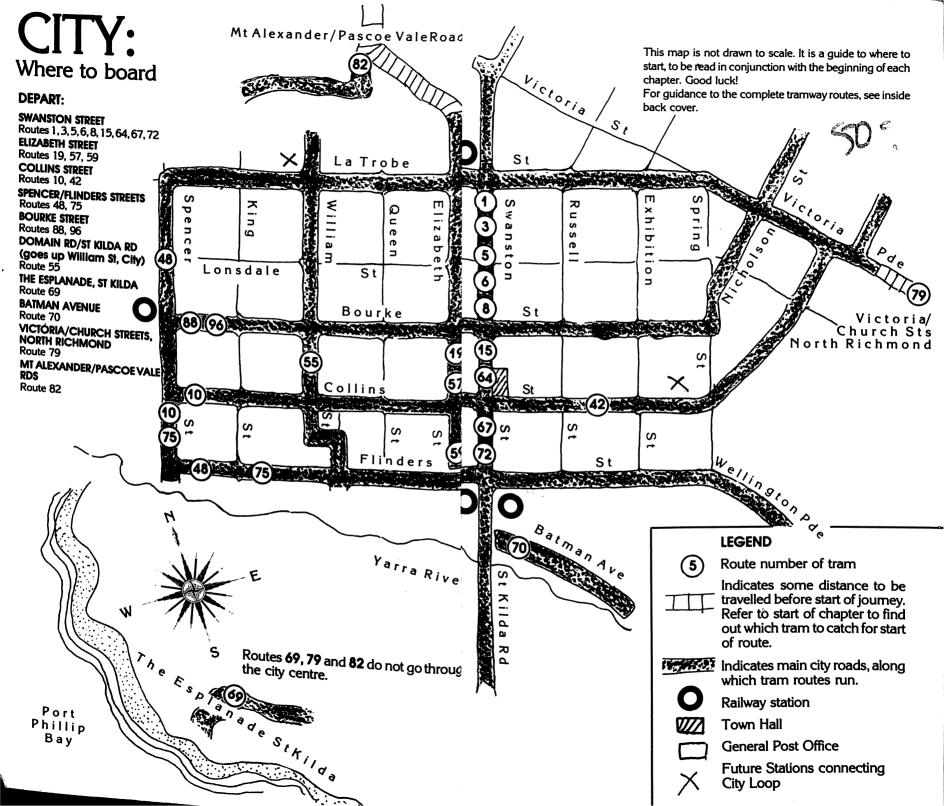
SFF MFLBOURNE BY TRAM



de Lacy Lowe Illustrated by Ceri Vaughan



Die John Diriging For

SEE MELBOURNE BY TRAM

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LEISURE PRESS

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1, 2 or 3 or combinations of these zones. These weekly cards can be bought at metropolitan railway stations, the tramway kiosk in the Royal Arcade or at tramway depots within normal office hours.

MONTHLY TRAVEL CARD

This provides unlimited travel in the calendar month. It means the price of each journey irrespective of length is down to only 10 cents! These cards may be purchased at the head office of the Melbourne & Metropolitan Tramways Board, 673 Bourke Street, the Victorian Government Travel Centre, 230 Collins Street, and at any tramways depot during normal office hours.

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It began with horse trams

Melbourne's tramways system began many years ago when the city was in its infancy with unpaved roads and newly developing residential areas.

The first trams were horse drawn through the main roads of the suburbs, with the system extending as far out as Kew Cemetery, Aubum Road, Coburg, Glenhuntly and Beaumaris. The last horse drawn tram, which went through Royal Park to the Zoo, operated until 1923 and is still remembered with great affection by Melbourne's older citizens.

Cable trams followed, mainly to cope with the ever expanding population. Cheaply and efficiently they were able to meet the transport needs of Melbourne, particularly carrying passengers between their homes and places of work. Even with the tracking needed, cable routes in Melbourne extended over a five kilometre radius of the city's centre.

During the heyday of cable trams, between the 1880's and the outbreak of World War 11, Melbourne's tramway system was world famous, particularly because of the outstanding engineering devised and executed for the complication of curves and crossovers needed, not to mention the extent of the system. In these areas of expertise it's good to remember that Melbourne's system not only surpassed any other in Australia but also outstripped American systems such as the highly sophisticated San Francisco network.

Tram users before World War 11 still speak fondly of the place the cable tram had in Melbourne life. Their steady speed and open design led to a very informal usage with passengers boarding and leaving at will, in spite of good natured protests from conductors.

World War 11 was the turning point for the cable car and, in a sense, it was beaten by its own success. Such was the efficiency of the system that the majority of the population travelled by tram — so much so that the burden of upkeep became too great, especially when competing with the streamlined electric system.

Electric trams were first introduced during the late 1800's when private trust systems were set up. One of Melbourne's 'first' was the electric tram that plied between Box Hill and Doncaster from 1884-96. Other lines followed with private networks being established in Hawthorn, Malvern, Prahran, Camberwell, Maribyrnong, Burwood,

