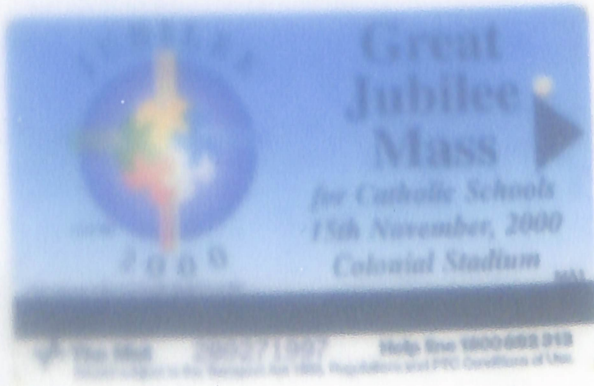
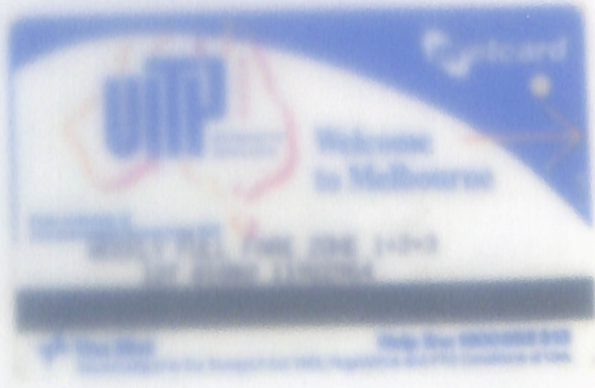


METCARD CATALOGUE



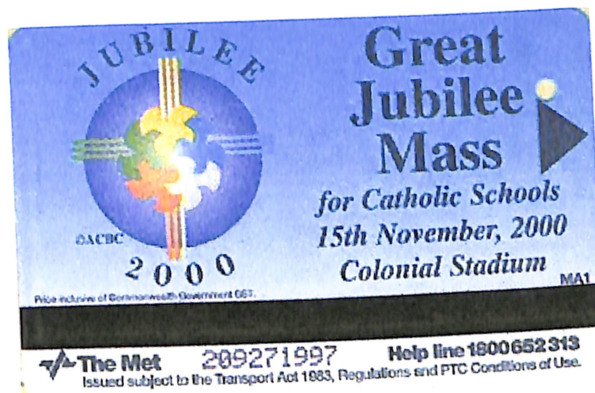
PRODUCED BY

VICTORIAN TELEPHONE &
SMART CARD COLLECTORS CLUB Inc.
Inc No A0025950C

275 WICK HILL, ROSEBUD, VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA, 3939.



METCARD CATALOGUE



PRODUCED BY

**VICTORIAN TELEPHONE &
SMART CARD COLLECTORS CLUB Inc.**

Inc No A0025950C

P.O. BOX 211, ROSEBUD, VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA, 3939.

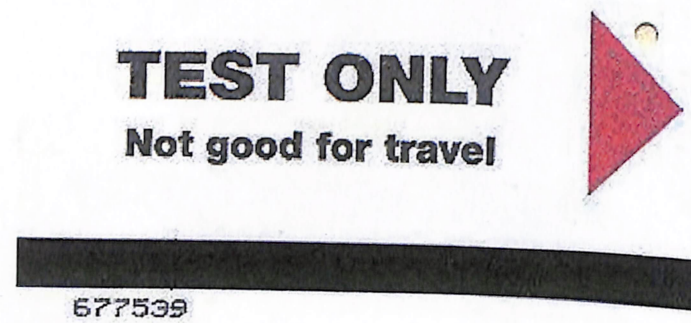


Metcard - Test Issues

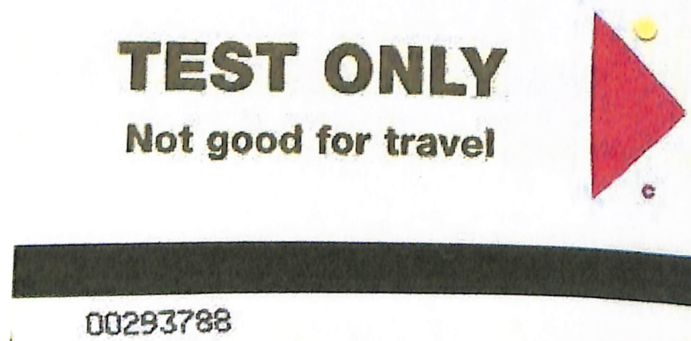
Page last modified/checked: Tuesday, 12 March 2002

Test Fronts/Test Print back

The test issues were able to be found fairly easily during the initial testing phase of the Metcard system and occasionally may still be found. Initially, there were only two known designators: blank and C. The M C1 to M C4 series were found by August 2000; the M A1 to M A4 series by November 2001, and the M B1 to M B4 group by January 2002.



No designator



Designator "C"

TEST ONLY

Not good for travel



841612

M A4

TEST ONLY

Not good for travel



838454

M B2

TEST ONLY

Not good for travel



881669

M C1

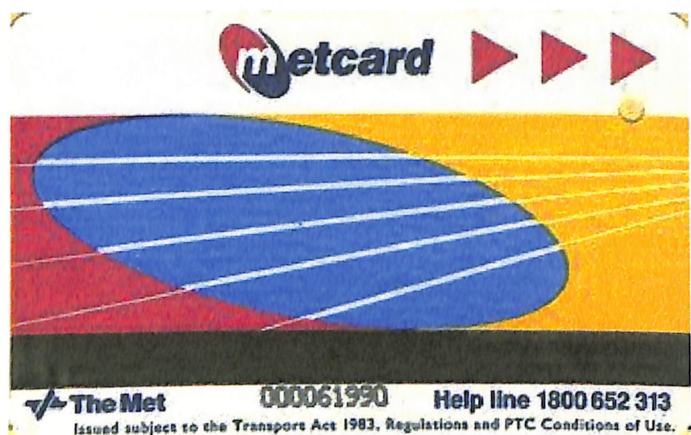
During a machines testing, a character print test was carried out resulting in the following print pattern. These test prints have been found using most of the front designs.


```

! " # $ % & ' ( ) * + , - . / 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 : ; < =
> ? @ A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z [ \ ] ^ _ ` { | } ~
! " # $ % & ' ( ) * + , - . / 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 : ;
< = > ? @ A B C D E F G H I
J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W
X Y Z [ \ ] ^ _ ` { | } ~

```

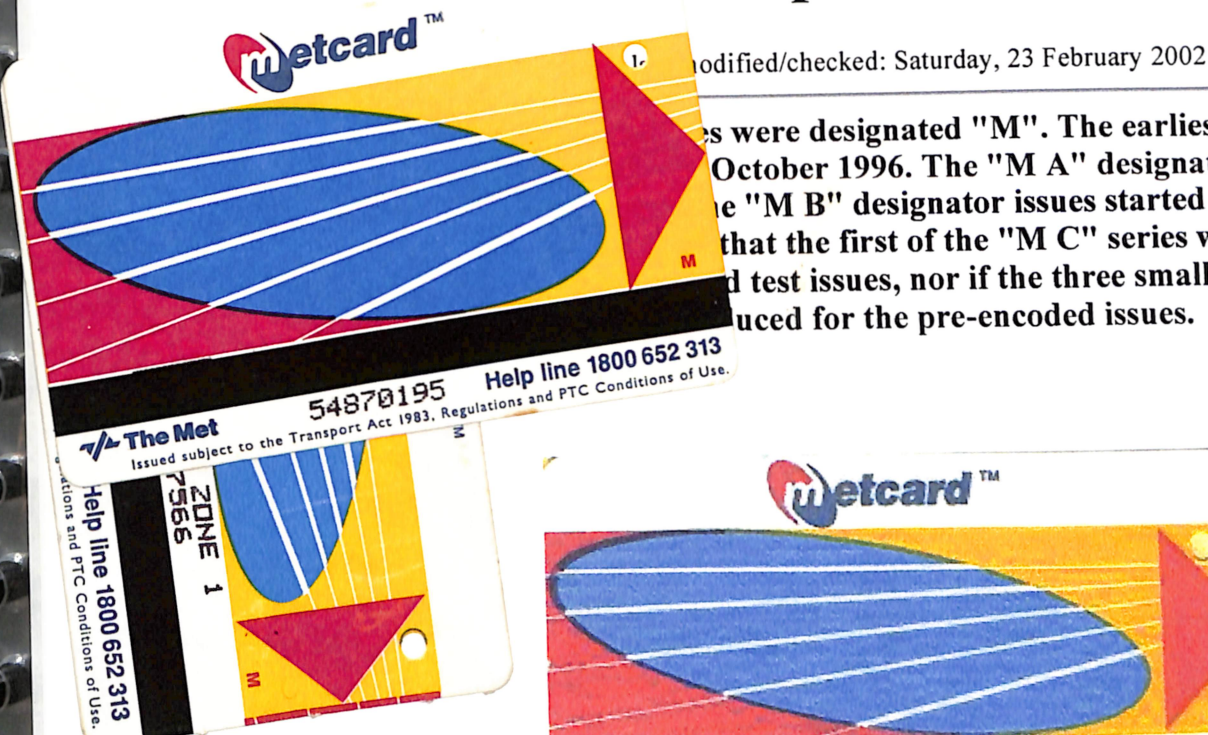
The following design featuring three arrows was used extensively in early promotional material, however the "standard" design was ultimately used for actual Metcard tickets. A small number of the three arrow design Metcards were handed to staff passing through the training centre, possibly as souvenirs. During March 1998, a number of used "three arrow" Metcards were found, suggesting any remaining stock of this design were being used up. Since April 1998, no further examples of this style have been found.



<--FRONTS INDEX

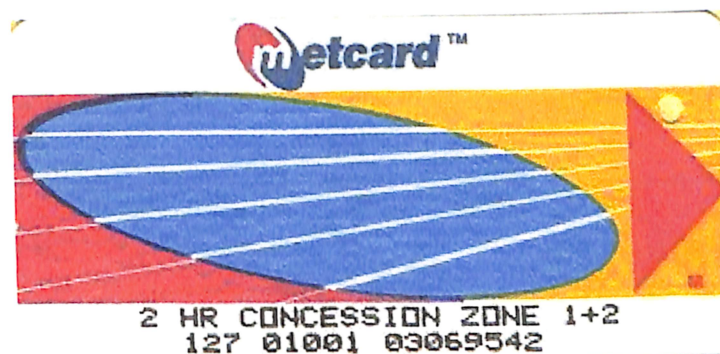
"STANDARD" PRE-ENCODED DESIGN-->

"Standard" pre-encoded design

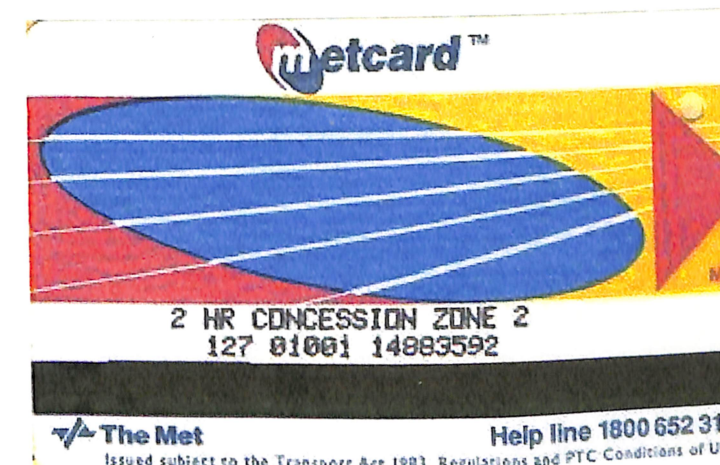


Modified/checked: Saturday, 23 February 2002

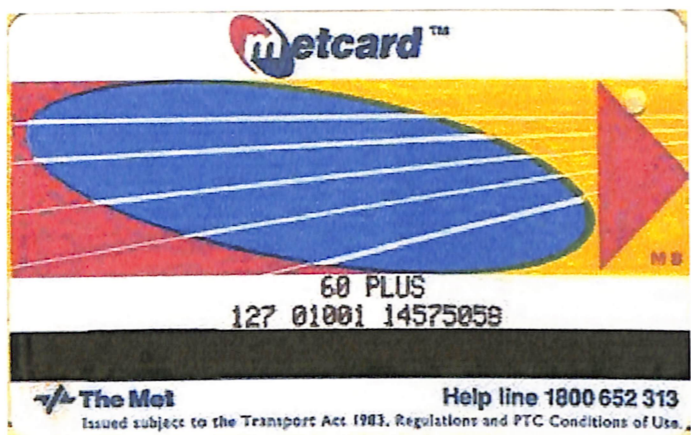
... were designated "M". The earliest issues found (at October 1996. The "M A" designator appeared during the "M B" designator issues started appearing and it was at that time that the first of the "M C" series were seen. I have not seen any test issues, nor if the three small arrows design was used for the pre-encoded issues.



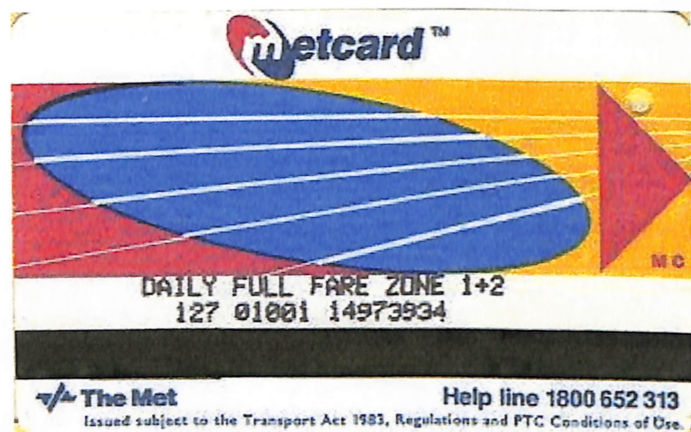
Designator "M"



Designator "M A"



Designator "M B"



Designator "M C"

[<--TEST ISSUES](#)

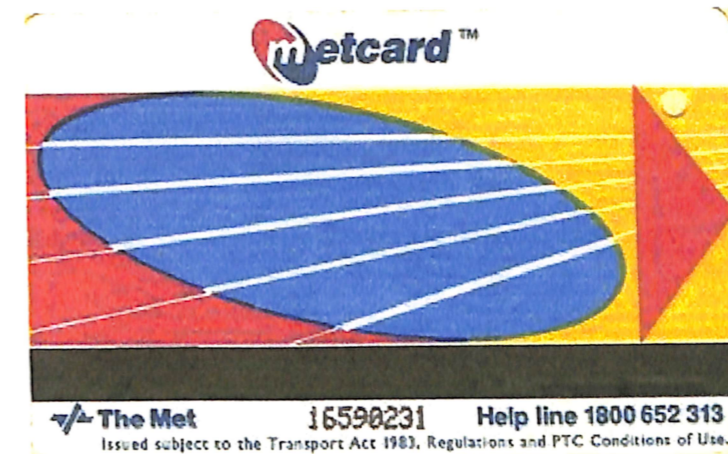
[FRONTS INDEX](#)

[1st "STANDARD" DESIGN-->](#)

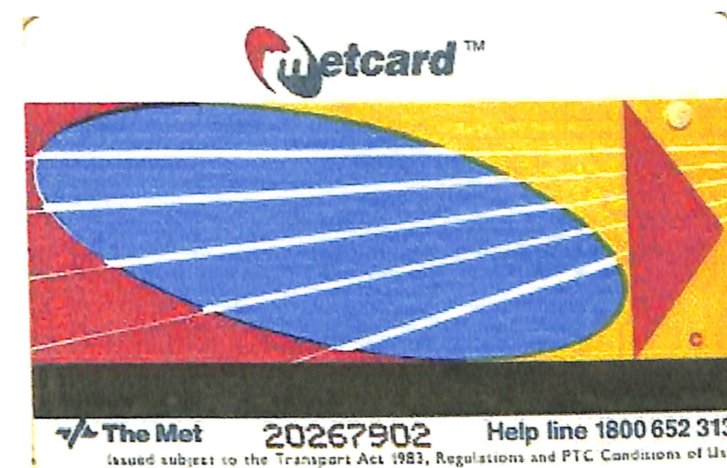
First "Standard" Design

Page last modified/checked: Monday, 17 December 2001

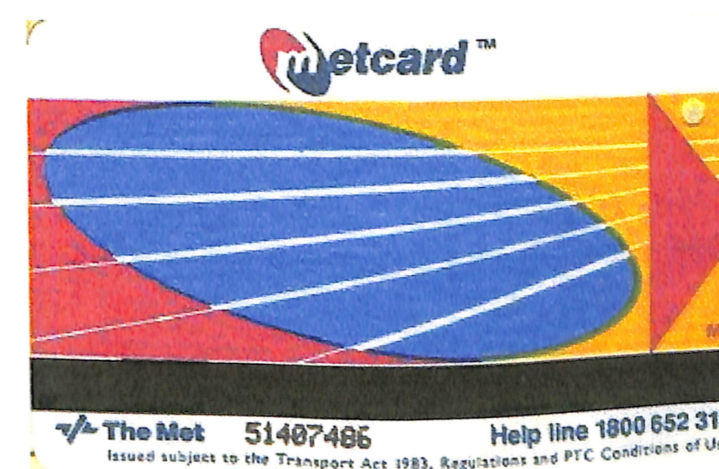
This is the design which introduced the Metcard system to Melbourne. Since its inception, over 100 million tickets of this design have been printed. This "generic" design has featured three different designators: blank, "C" and "M", all shown below.



No designator



Designator "C"

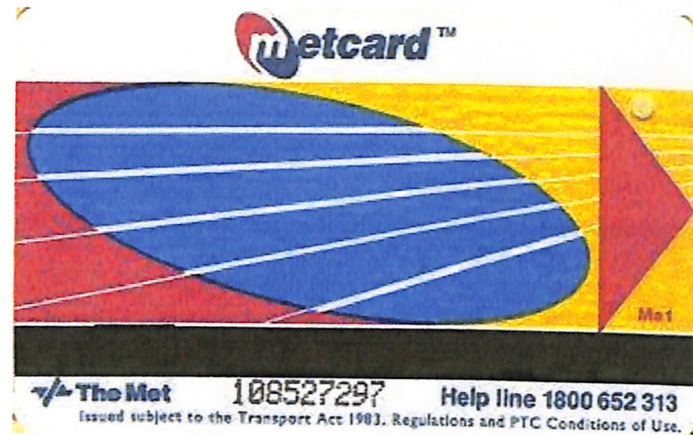


2nd "Standard" design

Page last modified/checked: Saturday, 23 February 2002

"M" designator altered to letters and numbers

As all the fronts in this "series" are of the same design, and to reduce download times and web space used, a single example only is illustrated. All designators (Ma1 to Ma4, Mb1 to Mb4 and Mc1 to Mc4) are known.



[<-1st "STANDARD" DESIGN](#)

[FRONTS INDEX](#)

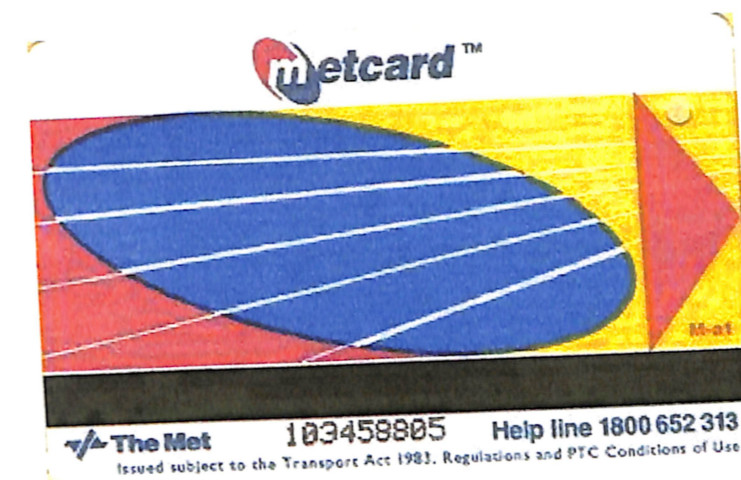
[3rd "STANDARD" DESIGN-->](#)

3rd "Standard" design

Page last modified/checked: Saturday, 23 February 2002

Hyphen added between letters and numbers

As all the fronts in this "series" are of the same design, and to reduce download times and web space used, a single example only is illustrated. All designators (M-a1 to M-a4, M-b1 to M-b4 and M-c1 to M-c4) are known.



[<-2nd "STANDARD" DESIGN](#)

[FRONTS INDEX](#)

[MELBOURNE EVENTS SERIES-->](#)

The Melbourne Events Series

Page last modified/checked: Saturday, 23 February 2002

The release of this design was featured in Melbourne's "Herald Sun" newspaper on the 8th July 1999, with the first four designs going on sale the following day. The Spring Racing Carnival and Royal Melbourne Show designs appeared three to four weeks later. These pre-encoded tickets were only available through retail outlets.

The six designs in this series were each repeated twice, with using different designators.

The order these tickets ran in appears to be:

- MA: Flower Show, Australian Open, Moomba, Woolmark
 - MB: Woolmark, Moomba, Spring Racing Carnival, Royal Show
 - MC: Flower Show, Australian Open, Spring Racing Carnival, Royal Show
- The respective designators are shown under each appropriate ticket.
Clicking on any designator will bring up a 100dpi image (approx 22k).



<-3rd STANDARD DESIGN

FRONTS INDEX

1st MELBOURNE FOOD SERIES->

Melbourne Food - 1st Machine Issue series

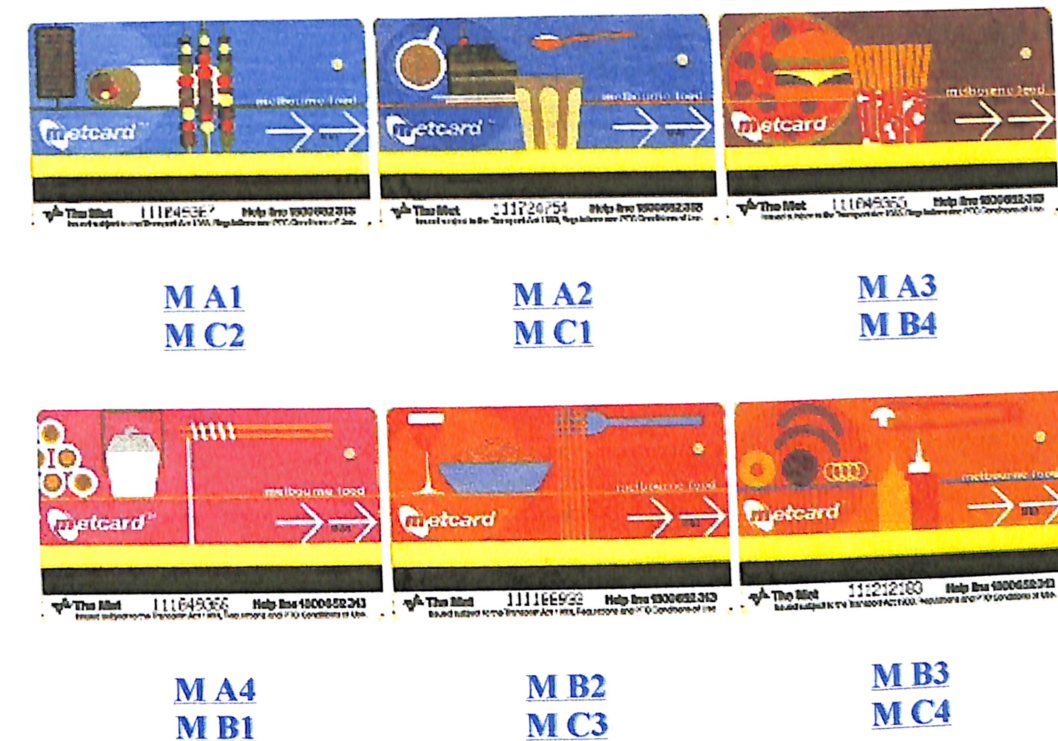
Machine issue only - Yellow stripe

On issue by 4th September 1999

Page last modified/checked: Saturday, 23 February 2002

The six designs in this series were each repeated twice, using different designators.
The official names for the designs are unknown, however the following approximations seem reasonable:
M A1 and M C2: "Grilled Food", M A2 and M C1: "Cafe Food", M A3 and M B4: "Take-Away Food",
M A4 and M B1: "Chinese Food", M B2 AND M C3: "Italian Food", M B3 and M C4: "Bar-B-Q Food".

The respective designators are shown under each appropriate ticket.
Clicking on any designator will bring up a 100dpi image (approx 22k).



The reason for the yellow stripe is unknown at this time. It is, however, in the location that the ticket details are printed on a pre-encoded ticket.

<-MELBOURNE EVENTS SERIES

FRONTS INDEX

MELBOURNE FOOD 2nd SERIES->

Melbourne Food - 2nd Machine Issue series

Earliest issue found: 21st September 1999

Page last modified/checked: Saturday, 23 February 2002

The first examples found of this series were all issued on buses (089 designators). It was some weeks before the first of the rail (and later tram) issues were found.

The six designs in this series were each repeated twice, using different designators.

The official names for the designs are unknown, however the following approximations seem reasonable:

M A1 and M C2: "Grilled Food", M A2 and M C1: "Cafe Food", M A3 and M B3: "Chinese Food",

M A4 and M B4: "Take-Away Food", M B1 AND M C4: "Bar-B-Q Food", M B2 and M C3: "Italian Food".

The respective designators are shown under each appropriate ticket. Clicking on any designator will bring up a 100dpi image (approx 22k).



[MA1](#)
[MC2](#)

[MA2](#)
[MC1](#)

[MA3](#)
[MB3](#)



[MA4](#)
[MB4](#)

[MB1](#)
[MC4](#)

[MB2](#)
[MC3](#)

A number of the M A2 (or M C1) designs were found with a missing designator. I have now provided a [link](#) to a scan of one of these tickets.

[←-MELBOURNE FOOD 1st SERIES](#)

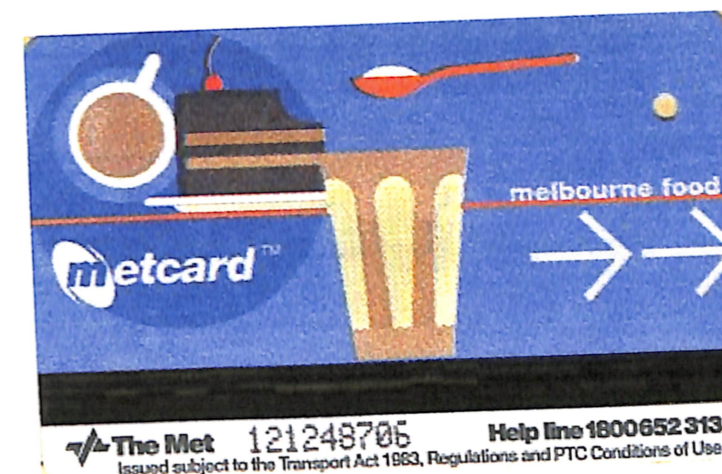
[FRONTS INDEX](#)

[PRE-ENCODED MELBOURNE FOOD 1st SERIES→](#)

Melbourne Food 2nd series - No Designator

Page last modified/checked: Saturday, 23 February 2002

I was reluctant to include this ticket "variety" in the site as I feel it is merely a printing error, rather than a new "type". However, a contributor has also mentioned finding other tickets in this series that also have missing or partially missing designators; so, for the sake of completeness, I have included a scan of this M A2 (or M C1) issue, clearly showing no designator printed.



No designator printed



"Normal" M C1 for comparison

[←-MELBOURNE FOOD 2nd SERIES](#)

Pre-encoded Melbourne Food - 1st Series

Designator letters only

Earliest issue found: 19th September 1999

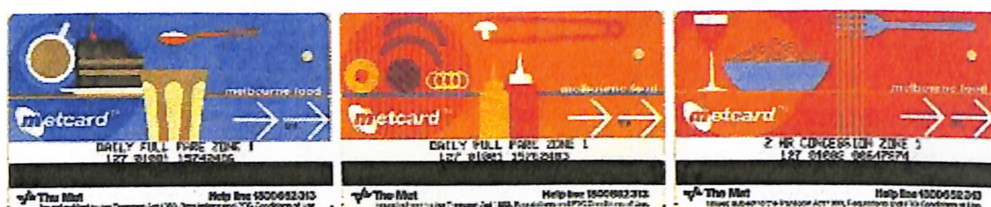
Page last modified/checked: Saturday, 23 February 2002

The six designs in this series were each repeated twice, using different designators.

The order these tickets ran in (or reverse order) appears to be:

- MA: Cafe Food, Bar-B-Q Food, Italian Food, Grilled Food
- MB: Bar-B-Q Food, Italian Food, Chinese Food, Take-Away Food
- MC: Grilled Food, Chinese Food, Take-Away Food, Cafe Food

The respective designators are shown under each appropriate ticket. Clicking on any designator will bring up a 100dpi image (approx 22k).



MA
MC

MA
MB

MA
MB



MA
MC

MB
MC

MB
MC

[<--MELBOURNE FOOD 2nd SERIES](#)

[FRONTS INDEX](#)

[PRE-ENCODED MELBOURNE FOOD 2nd SERIES-->](#)

Pre-encoded Melbourne Food - 2nd Series

Designator letters and numbers

Earliest issue found: 14th October 1999

Page last modified/checked: Saturday, 23 February 2002

The six designs in this series were each repeated twice, using different designators.

The official names for the designs are unknown, however the following approximations seem reasonable:

- M A1 and M C2: "Grilled Food", M A2 and M C1: "Cafe Food", M A3 and M B4: "Take-Away Food",
- M A4 and M B1: "Chinese Food", M B2 AND M C3: "Italian Food", M B3 and M C4: "Bar-B-Q Food".

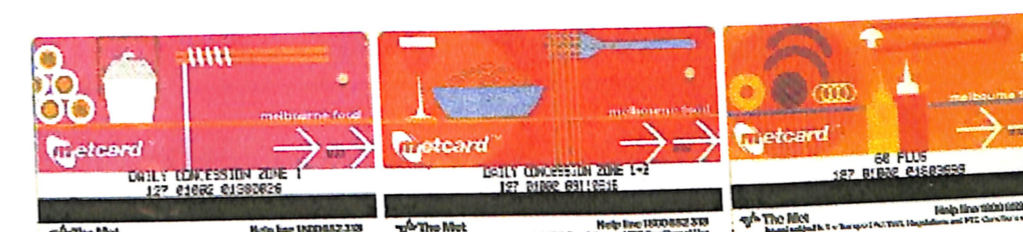
The respective designators are shown under each appropriate ticket. Clicking on any designator will bring up a 100dpi image (approx 22k).



MA1
MC2

MA2
MC1

MA3
MB4



MA4
MB1

MB2
MC3

MB3
MC4

[<--PRE-ENCODED MELBOURNE FOOD 1st SERIES](#)

[FRONTS INDEX](#)

[PRE-ENCODED MELBOURNE FOOD RAIL+2 ISSUES-->](#)

Pre-encoded Melbourne Food - 2nd Series

Rail+2 Issues

Page last modified/checked: Saturday, 23 February 2002

Originally, pre-encoded rail+2 tickets were only listed as being available via the Metcard Help line. A surprise discovery revealed these four rail+2 tickets on issue from the Met Shop in Elizabeth Street, Melbourne. Concession issues were not stocked at the time. Unusually, the tickets are printed "Adult Full Fare", the first such examples found with this wording.



As of July 2000, the food series had sold out and been replaced by a [Millenium Metcard](#) series of Rail + 2 issues.

[←-PRE-ENCODED MELBOURNE FOOD 2nd SERIES](#)

[FRONTS INDEX](#)

[FREEONLINE.com DESIGN-->](#)

The freeonline.com Design

Page last modified/checked: Saturday, 23 February 2002

This design first appeared on, and was featured in the Melbourne Herald-Sun on the 20th October 1999. The article reports "being the first time in Australia that the design of a public transport ticket had been changed to allow for advertising." Based on the numbers on the front of these tickets, approximately 7 million of this design were printed. The newspaper article anticipated that 250,000 of these should be purchased every day.

As all the fronts in this "series" are of the same design, and to reduce download times and web space used, a single example only is illustrated. All designators (M A1 to M A4, M B1 to M B4 and M C1 to M C4) can be found on this design.



[←-PRE-ENCODED MELBOURNE FOOD RAIL+2 ISSUES](#)

[FRONTS INDEX](#)

[MILLENIUM METCARDS SERIES-->](#)

The "Millenium Metcards" Series

On issue by the 3rd December 1999

Page last modified/checked: Saturday, 23 February 2002

The six designs in this series were each repeated twice, using different designators. The respective designators are shown under each appropriate ticket. Clicking on any designator will bring up a 100dpi image (approx 22k).

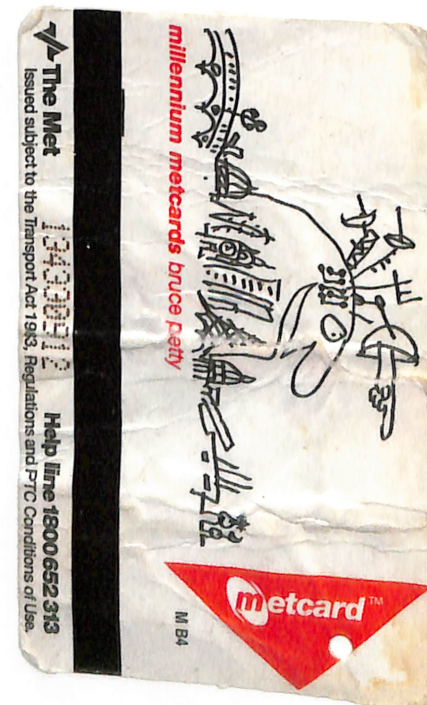


The official titles of the designs are unknown, a guess (by us) will not be made!

[←-FREEONLINE.com DESIGN](#)

[FRONTS INDEX](#)

[PRE-ENCODED MILLENIUM METCARDS SERIES→](#)



The Pre-encoded Millenium Metcards Series

Earliest dated issue found: 15th March 2000

Page last modified/checked: Saturday, 23 February 2002

After finding the initial "MA" series in March 2000, it took until late June/early July 2000 until the "MB" and "MC" series were finally found.



[←-MILLENIUM METCARDS SERIES](#)

[FRONTS INDEX](#)

[PRE-ENCODED MILLENIUM METCARDS RAIL+2 ISSUES→](#)

Pre-encoded Millenium Metcards

Rail+2 Issues

Page last modified/checked: Saturday, 23 February 2002

A visit to the Met Shop in Elizabeth Street, Melbourne during early July 2000 revealed that the Melbourne Food series of Rail + 2 tickets had sold out and been replaced by a series of Millenium Metcards, designated "MB". A visit to Richmond station Up end booking offices (MCG entrance and Melbourne Park entrance) a couple of days later also revealed a series of Millenium Metcard Rail+2's on issue, both with "MA" designators. Again, Concession issues were not stocked at either location. Whilst the Melbourne Food series were printed "Adult Full Fare", these issues are printed "Full Fare". The "MC" series started appearing during November 2000. But the BIG news is a Rail+2 CONCESSION issue has been found, dated 8th March 2001. This is the first pre-encoded concession Rail+2 of any design (see below).



Melbourne International Comedy Festival Series

Earliest dated issue found: 10th March 2000

Page last modified/checked: Saturday, 23 February 2002

The six designs in this series were each repeated twice, using different designators. The respective designators are shown under each appropriate ticket. Clicking on any designator will bring up a 100dpi image (approx 22k).



The official titles of the designs are unknown, a guess (by us) will not be made!

