

TRAM IMAGES

*of a journey through
Australia and New Zealand*



Hugh Ballment

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of a journey through
Australia and New Zealand

Box Hill & Doncaster Tramway Company
LIMITED

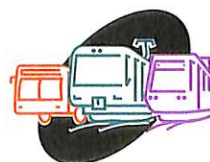


FIRST ELECTRIC TRAMS IN AUSTRALIA, "BOX HILL TO DONCASTER",
AND IN NEW ZEALAND, "ROSLYN TO MAORI HILL".

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Preface



The sign that greeted you on entering Ballarat.

My interest in public transport and tramways in particular started in the early 1950s, about the time of the wholesale closures of tram systems. The closures mainly ended in the 1960s and in that period from almost the beginning of the 1950s colour film had become available. Most of the colour slides of Australia were taken between 1950 and 1960, and those of New Zealand mainly in 1954. Subsequently I started collecting post cards and thus the idea of sharing my collection arose.

With few exceptions, all of the images have either been taken by me or are from the postcards I have acquired over the years.

In viewing the images I am struck by the changes, life was slower with time to talk or just contemplate, even fashions were quite different and perhaps motor traffic didn't dominate our lives to the extent it does today.

The book itself has had quite a number of years in its gestation period and has looked to be put aside forever on a number of occasions, but thanks to Carl's expertise in the layout and design and my wife's encouragement the dream has been fulfilled.

As mentioned earlier most images have either been taken by me or are from my collection of post cards and if I have inadvertently used a copyright picture I sincerely apologise.

The brief statistics provided in the location headers and appendix are only designed to give readers an idea of how, when and where the system operated, with opening and closing dates in the main being only for electric operation. On a number of systems the operator changed its name so I have picked the operator I believe was most closely associated with the trams. As most of the systems were built during the imperial measurement days, I have left the gauge in this measurement, thus standard gauge is 4' (foot) 8½" (inches).

The number of routes operated are only an indication of the size of the system and could have varied over the years, so they have been classified into small; 1 to 5 routes, medium; 6 to 10 and large; over 10 routes.

All that having been said, I hope you sit back and enjoy the book.

Hugh Ballment
2008



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