

BOROONDARA

Bicycle Users Group

Newsletter April 2009

Boroondara BUG meetings are normally held on the 2nd Thursday of each month. However our next meeting is on the third Thursday, 16th April. It will be held in the function room at the Elgin Inn, cnr Burwood Rd and Elgin St, Hawthorn (Melway 45 B10). Optional dinner at 6.30pm, meeting starts at 7.30pm.

The Boroondara BUG is a voluntary group working to promote the adoption of a safe and practical environment for utility and recreational cyclists in the City of Boroondara. We have close links with the City of Boroondara, Bicycle Victoria, Bicycle Federation of Australia and other local Bicycle Users Groups. Two of the positions on the Boroondara Bicycle Advisory Committee, which meets quarterly, are assigned to Boroondara BUG members.

Boroondara BUG has a website at <http://www.boroondarabug.org> that contains interesting material related to cycling, links to other cycle groups, recent Boroondara BUG Newsletters and breaking news. We also have two Yahoo Groups:

1. Send a blank email to: BoroondaraBug-subscribe@yahoogroups.com to receive notification when the latest monthly newsletter and rides supplement have been placed on the web site and very occasional important messages.
2. Send a blank email to: BoroondaraBugDiscussion-subscribe@yahoogroups.com to monitor or join in an ongoing discussion of bike related issues both local and general.

All articles in this newsletter are the views and opinions of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of any other members of Boroondara BUG. All rides publicised in this newsletter are embarked upon at your own risk.

Features

Grampians Bike Riding, Camping, Walking Tour

Day 1 – Tues 24/3/09 Ararat to Halls Gap (48km)

One of the most fraught aspects of cycle touring is catching V/Line trains. Many of the newer style trains will only take three bikes, so with three of us trying to catch the train we were relieved to see no other cyclists already waiting on the Ararat line platform. When the train arrived in Ararat at 10.35am Ian McNamara, Dawn Kneen and I met up with our fellow travellers, Betty and John Weeks, who had driven to Ararat. John had kindly offered to carry our luggage, thus making cycling easier and faster. After we unloaded our camping gear into John's car we realized how much lighter our bikes now felt. John was a patient and thoughtful support driver and on many occasions we were grateful for all his assistance and help on this tour.

After a quick morning tea at a local bakery we pedalled off into the undulating, autumn brown countryside surrounding Ararat. The overcast sky and windless, cool conditions made for good progress and it seemed no time until we'd arrived at the little town of Moyston, home town of Seppelts wines, where we had a BYO lunch in the town park. We rode on to Pomonal for a short icecream and drink stop at the General Store. We bought a small jar of lavender mustard that was unexpectedly mild and smooth with just a hint of lavender oil.

We arrived in Halls Gap in good time to set up our tents and have a welcome cup of tea followed by a short walk to Venus' Bath, a clear pool of water in the creek. The Grampians bush has recovered well after the severe fires of three years ago. The undergrowth looked fresh and green again and the trees have mostly recovered, although blackened trunks remain on many. Kangaroos, wallabies and corellas frequented the camp ground. Betty & John set a camp fire and Betty cooked a delicious dinner of gourmet BBQ sausages. We then turned in for an early night. During the night the light drizzle that set in became increasingly heavier until quite solid rain was heard pattering on our tent flies.

Day 2 – Wed 25/3/09 – Halls Gap to Dunkeld (68km)

After a BYO breakfast and a brief foray to the local bakery for the day's food, we set off from Halls Gap and rode to the Brambuck Centre for a quick look around before riding along the Tourist Road to Dunkeld. We had quick stops at Borough Huts Camp Ground and Jimmy's Creek Camp Ground. Both these camping areas have been rebuilt since the fires burnt them out. Jimmy's Creek camp has new tables, toilets and bush shower. During a rain shower we sheltered under the verandah of the toilet block whilst having morning tea.

As we rode through the undulating countryside, the aromatic bush smells heightened by the light, misty rain and the mist on the mountain tops made this a scenic and enjoyable ride. Ian pointed out a wallaby and emus in the bush. We seized a brief, dry spell between rain showers to stop at Wonnan Creek Camp Ground for lunch. At Dunkeld we set up our tents in a grassy area in the small town caravan park that overlooks Mt Sturgeon. That evening Dawn and I cooked sausages and vegetables with pasta for dinner. After dinner we played "500" with cards borrowed from Rod, the cheerful, capable manager of the Dunkeld Caravan Park who lives in an old bus that looks like its travelling days are over. Short fat leech-like black millipedes took up residence under the fly of my tent. I noticed they especially liked the dark, damp spots under my shoes.

Day 3 – Thurs 26/3/09 – Dunkeld to Hamilton (32km)

Next morning we packed up camp then rode our bikes to the start of the Mt Sturgeon walk. Mt Sturgeon is the closest peak to Dunkeld and the southernmost peak of the Grampians. Although only a short distance and all on trails, this walk is steep at times so took about 3 hours to complete. The native vegetation and views of Dunkeld and the surrounding area make the climb to the top really worthwhile. Pink and white heath, banksias with their curious needle-like flowers out in bloom and white native daisies caught our eye as we walked.

After lunch in the Dunkeld town park, we set off for Hamilton on the Glenelg Highway for about 8kms before diverting right onto the 'scenic route', a quiet, sealed back road with views over the Grampians and surrounding farms. This route carries much less traffic than the highway so is better for cyclists. A westerly wind made this short, relatively flat ride seem unexpectedly difficult so we rode as a 'bunch', taking turns out the front.

Our camp that night was at the Lakeside Caravan Park, well-appointed and close to the town centre but unfortunately noisy as trucks roared along the nearby highway all night. The weather was clearing up so becoming cold at night and we made good use of the campers kitchen handily located next to our site. After a foray on the local Aldi Store to stock up for tonight's and tomorrow's dinners, Ian cooked a delicious BBQ of marinated chicken, potatoes and salad in the campers kitchen. These campers kitchens are wonderful when traveling with tents as most provide shelter, tables and chairs, BBQs and even microwave ovens, electric jugs and toasters. We were grateful for Betty's knowledge of preparing food for groups as this was most helpful when deciding what and how much to buy.

Day 4 – 27/3/09 – Hamilton to Mt Eccles National Park (52km)

Today's ride was estimated at about 50km distance, but due to road works on the Hamilton – Port Fairy Road, we had to detour. This detour plus the 8km side road to and from Byaduk Caves made this day's ride nearly 68km in total. We rode into a cold but beautifully sunny, clear morning. Today's ride was through undulating farming country in perfect riding conditions. Sleek black and white cattle grazed in paddocks – we knew we were now in volcanic 'Western District' country. Rusty red scoria rocks in the paddocks and the volcanic peaks of Mt Napier and Mt Eccles were seen on the horizon.

An unsealed and corrugated 4km gravel road lead to the Byaduk Caves, Victoria's most accessible lava caves. Most are now closed to the public but limited access is still possible at Harman No. 1 Cave. A short scramble down to the cave entrance revealed softly green native ferns, mosses and native brambles. The cool, dark and moist cave entrance provides a microclimate where these plants are able to survive the harsh drought conditions above. A couple of Bent Wing Bats flitted past as we entered the cave. Due to time limits and inadequate footwear and equipment, we didn't attempt to walk further into this cave. From the well marked walking trail and viewing platforms we were able to look down into some of the other surprisingly large caves including Harman No. 2 and the Bridge Caves. After a quick lunch in the caves carpark, we rode on to the little town of Macarthur for afternoon tea before heading into Mt Eccles National Park.

Mt Eccles National Park is set up on the side of Victoria's most recently-active volcano. The native bush makes this camping ground most attractive. Hot showers and flushing loos make this a comfortable national park camping spot. Betty cooked salmon and noodles and we played cards whilst sitting by the campfire.

Day 5 Sat 28/3/09 Mt Eccles to Port Fairy (50km)

Today was another lovely day's ride with tailwinds during the afternoon. After a quick morning tea in the Macarthur town park and a roadside lunch just south of Orford, we arrived in Port Fairy in good time to set up our tents at "Southcombe by the Sea Caravan Park". After a cup of tea we explored nearby Griffiths Island, a little island joined by a causeway to the township of Port Fairy. This island was first settled by Europeans in the 1830's. Shearwaters or Mutton Birds roost on this island.

Tonight we decided not to cook but go for a pub dinner at the Caledonian Hotel or the “Black Stump” as the locals call it.

Day 6 Sun 29/3/09 Port Fairy to Warrnambool (32km)

It was a short ride from Port Fairy to Tower Hill and as our train didn't depart till 5.05pm, we took the opportunity of exploring this revegetated volcano. The scenic drive around the rim of the volcano gives good views of the superb coastline and down into the crater of the volcano. After a quick morning tea, Betty and John set off for Melbourne whilst Ian, Dawn and I spent more time doing some of the shorter walks at Tower Hill.

A short, steep ride back up Tower Hill took us to the turnoff to Koroit, a charming Irish-style town, where we had lunch. A further ride of about 20km took us to Warrnambool where we visited a couple of Dawn's friends who have recently bought a house there. After a delicious brownie and cup of tea we headed off for Warrnambool Station to catch our train back to Melbourne.

Cathy Taylor

Opinion

On the Bikepath Keep to the Left, Right?

Recently I was riding west on the Waverley Rail Trail and approached Mt Waverley Station. There is a curve with a very short sightline because of the road bridge going above. I sounded my bell well before and reached the curve at the same time as a cyclist travelling on his wrong side. We both braked hard and just hit with no damage done. In our conversation this young man of Asian background advised that when he heard my bell he instinctively moved to his right side of the path which brought on the accident. There is a need for education by governments and cycling organisations to remove this problem.

Graham Ellis

Trail Notes

Extension to Upfield Bikeway

The Upfield Bikeway now continues northwards from Boundary Rd to Box Forest Rd, on the western side of the rail line and along the eastern edge of Fawkner Cemetery. At Boundary Rd the cycle path crosses the rail line, by means of an unusual split route. Northbound and southbound cyclists are directed to use opposite sides of the road to cross the rail line. How well this works remains to be seen. However there is no question about the standard of this new section of trail. It is wide and smooth with a clear centre line and solar lights along the sides. There is access to Fawkner Station and to the cemetery mid-way, with a chicane to slow through traffic at this point. An excellent addition to the metropolitan off-road network!

Events

Australasian Cycling History Conference

City Museum @ Old Treasury Melbourne, Victoria 17th - 19th April 2009

The Australasian Cycling History Conference 2009 is the biennial conference for cycle collectors, enthusiasts and historians from Australia and the surrounding region. This event will be hosted by the City Museum, situated in the historic former Treasury Building in the City of Melbourne.

People, Organisations and Events The theme for ACHC 2009 is naturally focussed on Melbourne, and features the story of a great wholesaler company and an iconic Melbourne retailer.

Speakers include:

- Erica Finlay - The Barb: A ride through history with the Finlay family
- Michael Toohey (NZ) - Cashing In: The New Zealand Wheel Race and the
- First Heyday of Cash Amateur Cycling in Australasia
- Ross Harrop - Australian Cycle Marvels, Patents to 1950 and
- Graham Bradshaw - Cecil Walker Revisited

There will also be workshops, demonstrations, a swap meet and plenty of time for socialising. Come and join us.

Further Details: Graham Bradshaw

T: 0417 339 265; E: graham@cyclinghistory.net.au; W: www.cyclinghistory.net.au

Product Reviews

Trailgators

The options for transporting small children by bicycle just keep expanding. Now in addition to various types of child seats, trailers, and the tag-along comes the trail-gator. The tag-along is a partial bike, consisting of a single wheel, seat, handlebar and pedals, that attaches by a bar to the back of an adult bike and cannot function independently. The trail-gator on the other hand is a device for attaching a complete small child's bike to the back of an adult bike. The child's front wheel is lifted in the air while the bike is attached by the trailgator. However should the child wish to ride independently their bike can be detached, and the trail-gator folds to sit just clear of the adult's back wheel. Special trainer wheels can be purchased that flip up or down as required.

Trail-gators come in three colours, black, blue or red. They cost about \$135 and are available for purchase online at <http://www.cycletow.com.au/> or at Goldcross stores and possibly other cycle shops as time goes by. And no I'm not getting a commission. We just bought one for our four-year old grand-daughter for Christmas and I think they're great.

Julia Blunden

General News

Victorian Cycling Strategy

\$115M PLAN PAVES THE WAY FOR VICTORIA'S CYCLING FUTURE Monday, 23 March 2009

[http://www.premier.vic.gov.au/premier/\\$115m-plan-paves-the-way-for-victorias-cycling-future.html](http://www.premier.vic.gov.au/premier/$115m-plan-paves-the-way-for-victorias-cycling-future.html)

Encouraging Victorians to ride their bikes and integrating new and existing cycling infrastructure into the transport network are key features of the \$115 million Victorian Cycling Strategy, launched today by Premier John Brumby. Mr Brumby released the strategy today with Roads and Ports Minister Tim Pallas at North Fitzroy where a new bike and pedestrian bridge will be built over the Merri Creek, linking two important cycling routes.

"The Victorian Government is taking action now to keep Melbourne moving, improving our transport network and providing more sustainable and accessible travel options for Victorians," Mr Brumby said. "This \$115 million cycling strategy seeks to further establish cycling as a viable, sustainable, affordable and safe transport option, investing in projects to reduce congestion and better integrate bike infrastructure into our transport network. "Since 1999 the Government has built 926 kilometres of paths and on-road facilities – that's further than Melbourne to Sydney. This plan builds on that with infrastructure works to begin this year on projects across metropolitan Melbourne and regional Victoria."

Mr Brumby said cycling infrastructure projects across the state included:

- Federation Trail Extension off-road path from Altona to Yarraville;
- Merri Creek Pipe Bridge linking the Merri Creek and Capital City trails;
- Mount Alexander Road on-road bicycle lanes;
- Bridge over Maroondah Highway connecting the Lilydale Warburton Trail with the Lilydale Railway Station;
- On-road bicycle lanes in Mooroopna, Shepparton, Strathdale, Kilmore and Ballarat; and
- Off-road paths in Bright, Wodonga, Ballarat and Geelong.

Mr Pallas said the Victorian Cycling Strategy delivered on the Government's commitment in the Victorian Transport Plan to invest \$115 million in cycling infrastructure and initiatives. "It sets out a blueprint to increase cycling levels across Victoria by building a better bike network, developing a cycling culture, separating cyclists and other road users where possible, better integrating cycling with public transport and in land use planning," Mr Pallas said.

Priority actions in the strategy include:

- Significantly improving the network within 10km of the CBD;
- Establishing a public bike hire scheme for Melbourne;
- Installing bike cages at 33 train stations by the end of 2009;
- Completing cycling networks in Central Activities Districts and regional centres;
- Developing safe cycling programs in Victorian schools and launching a "look out for cyclists" campaign to educate road users about cyclist safety; and
- A review of cycling accident patterns to develop appropriate counter measures.

Mr Pallas said developing cycling was not just about tackling congestion, but promoting greener, more sustainable and more affordable transport options. "This cycling strategy aims to deliver a greater willingness among Victorian's to use a bike for

every day travel – to get to work, the shops and to visit family and friends,” he said. “It’s not about replacing trains, buses, trams and cars, it’s about adding cycling to the list of viable transport options available to all Victorians. “The benefits of cycling are numerous, including easing congestion, reducing greenhouse gas emissions and encouraging our communities to use travel options that keep you fit and healthy.”

The Government’s ongoing cycling investment goes well beyond the \$115 million commitment in the Victorian Transport Plan. This is on top of funding for new bike paths to be built along new road projects and upgrades, and a dedicated \$4 million each year in the VicRoads budget.

The Victorian Cycling Strategy can be viewed at www.transport.vic.gov.au

Thanks to Chris Star for passing on this news

VCAT Hearing into Darebin Creek – Yarra Trail link

Yet another Practice Day Hearing took place on Friday 13th March.

Parks Victoria’s lawyer, said that negotiations with Latrobe Golf Club were progressing well at that time. The final draft plans have now been sent out to parties to the hearing. There is very little change to the alignment of the path through the golf course, but elevations have been changed as boardwalks will be used to take the path over the road leading to the practice fairway and dam. Agreement has also been reached on fencing. Farm Rd access has been deleted from the Yarra Planning Permit application for now and PV intend to lodge a separate Planning Permit Application regarding this at a later date. So Latrobe GC will not need time at the hearing.

Some objectors argued that the hearing should not go ahead until the Farm Rd access issue can be included, possibly reasoning the more delays the better. None of the lawyers representing the three councils supported them. Yarra have asked for a cross section of the bridge over the Yarra. Deputy President, Helen Gibson decided that the hearing will go ahead asap, but that’s not until July 20th - 23rd.

Two additional parties have been added: the Guide Dogs Association and Alphington Grammar (I had assumed that the latter was a party already but it seems not).

Julia Blunden

Cafes for Cyclists – a new occasional series

Eltham Glasshouse

The good news for anyone cycling in the Eltham/Research area along Main Rd, approaching or returning from the very scenic aqueduct trail, is that there is now a truly delightful café here, and it is actually open on Sunday morning when many of us need it. The address is 1425 Main Rd Eltham but it is not easily spotted from the road, or bike path, as it is up behind a service station and car wash. Just follow the drive between these establishments and you’ll reach the car park below the elevated café. There are both indoor and outdoor tables, a pleasing array of cakes as well as a good range of liquid refreshments, and extensive all-day breakfast and lunch menus. The café, as its name suggests, commands sweeping views.

Julia Blunden

Readers, please let us know about your favourite eateries on bike routes, especially if they are new or a tad out of the way.

Boroondara News

Markham Reserve Path

Work has just started on this connection between The Anniversary Trail and Warrigal Rd. The road width has been reduced along part of Markham Avenue with a view to installing the path on the south side of the roadway. There is no sign yet of how far the trail will divert to connect up the bank to the Anniversary Trail. To the east the path will run close to Victory Boulevard before sweeping down to Warrigal Rd at the creek bridge.

Graham Ellis

Boroondara BUG Member Profiles

Annalise and Sam (*joined Boroondara BUG in 2007*)



Annalise: Sam, and I both commute by bike most days. Sam rides to work in the city, and I work from home, but ride to the city most days to row or coach at Richmond Rowing Club. One of the nice things about the club is that most of the club members ride everywhere -- there is a real culture of cycling and we help each other out a lot with buying bikes and getting the new cyclists riding safely and confidently. Our commuting bikes are inexpensive -- mine is my first roadie from the mid 90s (I've swapped the handlebars for chopped-down flat-bars, and added a pannier rack), and Sam's is a very basic singlespeed.

We connect with the local cycling community through the Bicycle Victoria web forums and regularly participate in the Maling Room Ride -- a Tuesday and Thursday ride through Surrey Hills, Box Hill, Blackburn, Mitcham, Doncaster and Belmore, organised through the Forums. We also have a few other little groups of cycling friends who catch up on occasion for rides on Kew Boulevard, Beach Road and Mt Dandenong. We have road bikes for these rides - Sam a LeMond Reno and myself an Avanti Team Corsa.

We've done the last three Around the Bay in a Day rides and Audax Alpine Classics as well as a few other mass participation rides since we moved to Melbourne from Adelaide in 2005. It's been great on all these occasions to see so many people challenging themselves and loving life on two wheels.

We joined the Boroondara BUG because we believe governments must provide facilities for safer cycling, and we wanted to lend our voices to the advocacy BBUG provides in this region.

My father lived in Melbourne for a brief period in the 1970s. He says that at that time the city was very hostile to cycling and that the improvements since then have been huge. We haven't been in the area long enough to observe many changes in provision, but what has been noticeable since 2005 is the increasing numbers of people riding bikes in the city and suburbs. This makes us feel much safer, since we know that drivers are more accustomed to sharing the road.

As people who've been cycling since we were kids, we're very comfortable riding on most roads. We do have friends, however, who haven't had the same life-long experience, and as adults find their first on-road cycling experiences terrifying. It would be great for these people especially to have easier access to off-road paths -- maybe path entry points need to have quite clear radial cycling provision and signage, like the Safe Routes to School program, 'Safe Routes to the Shared Path' would certainly help our newer cycling friends in their first months on their bikes.

If you would like to be the next member profiled please send me your details, photo optional. Ed

Minutes of Boroondara BUG Meeting Thursday 12th March 2009

Elgin Inn, Hawthorn

Present: Julia Blunden, Phil Crohn, Glennys Jones, Graeme Stone, Don Glasson, John Parker, Alister Huth, Graham Ellis, Karen Schamberger, Peter Campbell, David Leong

Guest: Cr Kevin Chow, Solway Ward

Apologies: Betty Weeks

Correspondence:

- Julia B received a letter from Catherine Olive notifying us that Council will be considering the HA Smith Reserve Draft Concept Plan at its meeting on Monday 23 March.
- Glennys J received a letter of apology from the management at The Well SC, but no indication that safe, accessible bike parking is to be provided there.

Matters Arising:

1. **Darebin Creek – Main Yarra Trail Link:** Julia B reported that the VCAT hearing was adjourned after only 2½ days because Parks Victoria had entered into last minute negotiations with the Latrobe Golf Club. Another Practice Day Hearing was scheduled for Friday 13th March and she would be attending this.
2. **Web Site Copyright/Licensing Issues:** John P has not yet implemented this. Peter C alerted John P to a new possible approach.

3. **Trail Names:** John P is still to circulate his proposed list to BUG members. Peter C commented that there has been discussion of a related problem with inconsistent naming of country roads that has surfaced during the recent fires. He suggested that a letter to the Minister for Emergency Services re trail names would be timely.
4. **Promotion of the BUG:**
Business Cards: These have still not been forthcoming. Jason D and Peter C will continue to liaise on this.
5. **Anniversary Trail at High Street:** Glennys J reported that there has been no change since the last meeting.
6. **BAC meetings:** Julia B said she had emailed Jim H about this and he had responded, but no dates had been set as yet. It was agreed that Jim be emailed again with the suggestion that we meet on Friday 27th March, at 2.30pm, with a copy to Cr Heinz Kreutz. Julia B agreed to collect suggestions for agenda items via email.
7. **New Councilors:** Don G offered to contact Cr Brad Miles about attending our next meeting and to sound him out about issues he would like to cover. It was agreed to move this meeting to Thursday 16th April to avoid the middle of the school holidays. This change will need to be highlighted in the next newsletter, to go out at the usual time.
8. **Sustainable Living Festival, 20-22 February:** Peter C, Graham E and Graeme S all spent time staffing the Boroondara Sustainability Network stall and did their best to cover all areas including cycling issues. Many TravelSmart maps were distributed. The Network will have a stall at the Hawthorn Farmers Market on 21st March and it was agreed that a BUG presence there is desirable.
9. **On Cr Chow's arrival we suspended the agenda to focus on issues relating to his ward.**

Cr Chow began by stating his support for sustainable transport and outlining his understanding of some key cycling issues including the proposed link via Markham Reserve.

Gardiners Creek Missing Link – John P and Jason D outlined issues relating to this. John P offered Cr Chow a guided tour of the East Malvern Golf Course area in relation to cycle routes at a time to suit.

Ride2School – Glennys J highlighted the problems of families in SE Solway Ward crossing Warrigal Rd to reach Ashwood College, and crossing Toorak Rd to reach Camberwell High School.

Bicycle Advisory Committee – Peter C mentioned the existence of the BAC and the role of Cr Heinz Kreutz in chairing this. He also told us of plans for a State Government Bicycle Strategy and suggested that input from Boroondara is desirable.

Bluestone Pitchers: John P alerted Cr Chow to the issue of the installation of multiple courses of bluestone pitchers along kerbs, usually in the name of heritage. This poses a risk to cyclists riding close to the kerb and Council needs a clear policy limiting bluestone to one course, or better still to kerb uprights only.

Darebin Creek – Yarra Link - Cr Chow raised this issue, signalling that it may come up again at Council. Julia B and others outlined why the link is so important and what the current state of play is. Jason D is the main Bicycle Victoria contact on this issue and Julia B the BUG contact.

10. **East Malvern Station Bridge Detour:** John P has written a letter on behalf of the BUG thanking the Monash Alliance for their efforts with this detour, which include customised signage and special bike lights. Also mentioned were the improved design of the replacement bridge and plans for the opening of this. Malvern Valley PS will be involved. It was suggested that Solway PS could also be included. Glennys J noted that Stonnington Council have made themselves unpopular with cyclists once again by undertaking pavement works that interfered with the smooth functioning of the detour.

Graeme S, John P and John Bales have met with MA regarding the path alongside the Monash Fwy between the bridge and Argyll St. MA favour the retention of this path for use as a shared path but Stonnington Council still need to be convinced. John P and Graeme S undertook to lobby the golfers about this.

11. **Ten Worst Chicanes:** Graeme S has received a number of nominations. He will collate these and present the information at the next BAC meeting.
12. **Stonnington TravelSmart Map:** Following contact with Matt Barbetta Graeme S received 2 hard A3 copies of draft Travel Smart map. The draft does have off-road paths and on-road lanes marked and a selection of Informal bike routes. Graeme will liaise with BBUG members who ride Stonnington for their comments to be collected and passed on to Matt Barbetta. Graeme will also forward to Matt B names received of known Stonnington cyclists who are likely to provide feedback. It was suggested that the map needs to include the BUG logo and contact details. Julia B agreed to send these.

13. **Additional Council staff to work on sustainability including cycling matters:** There was agreement that Boroondara compares poorly with many neighbouring councils, eg Darebin, in this regard. Alister H pointed out that Darebin offer their staff cash incentives to ride to work.
14. **Ideas for involving inactive members:** All those present outlined their cycling interests and activities and we concluded that we are a diverse and talented lot! Newcomer Karen Schamberger was asked how she found out about the BUG and she indicated that it was via the BV web site. The possibility of another Discovery Ride, perhaps to showcase Boroondara's best trails, was raised. No decision was taken on this.
15. **Boroondara Open Space Policy:** Don G attended the focus group on Corridors and Linkages. When the issue of cyclist-pedestrian conflict came up he took the opportunity to raise the need for much greater expenditure on paths and for the provision of separate paths on busy commuter routes. Julia B reported that she had forwarded a brief submission on behalf of the BUG, covering the usual issues, with the agreement of Don G, Graeme S and John P. She offered to circulate this to other members.
16. **Boroondara Sustainability Network:** Peter C, as convenor of this network, which is not an organ of Council, invited the BUG to nominate as a member or affiliate. No decision was reached on this.
17. **Drink Container Deposit Legislation:** Peter C alerted us to the Greens sponsored Bill to introduce a deposit of 10c on drink bottles. We agreed that the BUG should support this initiative because broken glass is a serious problem for cyclists, as well as for other reasons. Strangely the Minister for Sustainability and Environment, Gavin Jennings, has announced his opposition. Julia B agreed to write to him on behalf of the BUG asking him to change his stance.
18. **Transition Towns Initiative:** Peter C identified this community driven initiative relating to peak oil and sustainability as another opportunity to push the cycling message.

Notes by Julia Blunden

Contacts for Rides

There are many BUGs, clubs and other organisations, several of them local, which organise rides. Below are some of their contact details. A separate supplement contains details of many of their forthcoming rides.

Ashburton Riders Club

Contacts:

Tony Landsell - email: tony@diacher.com

Justin Murphy - email: murphjj@au1.ibm.com

website: <http://www.ashburtonridersclub.asn.au/>

Banyule BUG

email: banyuleBug@yahoo.com.au

website: <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~banylbug/>

contacts: Richard phone: 9459 8648, or Les phone: 9459 2701

Boroondara Bushwalkers

contact Julia Blunden

phone: 9853 5095

email: jblunden@bigpond.com

website: www.keypoint.com.au/~bbwinc

Camberwell Downhill Gourmet Bike Riders

contact Elva Parker, phone: 9836 6392

Kew Neighbourhood Learning Centre Bike Riding Group

Contact: Robin Kendrick, phone: 9853 3126

Council on the Ageing (COTA) Cycling Group

contact Janet Bennett

email: janpeter@bigpond.net.au or COTA,

phone: 9654 4443

website:

http://www.cotavic.org.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/1006/cota_cycling_brochure_jul-dec_2007.pdf

Hawthorn Cycle Tours

contact Hawthorn Aquatic and Leisure Centre

phone: 9815 0988

email: lexbishop@bikerider.com

website: <http://www.geocities.com/perften/Hct.html>

Knox Bicycle Touring Club Incorporated

email: Mikeaatleisure@aol.com

website: home.vicnet.net.au/~knoxbike

Manningham BUG

email: seball@netlink.com.au, H.Edwards@bom.gov.au

website: www.vicnet.net.au/~mannbug

Maroondah Bushwalking Club

To obtain details of how to book on a walk and a copy of the current walks and activities program Contact information officers:

Sandra, phone: 9728 3833, Aileen, phone: 9876 1104

website: home.vicnet.net.au/~mbush/

Melbourne Bicycle Touring Club

contact Touring Secretary, Dave Cash, phone: 9817 3269

or email info@mbtc.org.au (Note that this email address doesn't get checked every day - so don't expect an immediate response!) website: mbtc.org.au

Darebin BUG

Rides and Events Coordinator
 Doug Morffew, phone: 9499 7325 (AH)
 email: dougmorf@alphalink.com.au
 Download the Darebin BUG rides flyer, with details of rides (Word doc)
 website: www.darebinbug.org.au

Surrey Hills Neighbourhood Centre

Phone: 9890 2467
 Email: info@surreyhillsnc.org.au
 Website: www.surreyhillsnc.org.au

Whitehorse Cyclists

email: ejhopper@vicnet.net.au
 website: <http://www.whitehorsecyclists.org.au/>

Finbar Neighbourhood House Rides

Contact Deb in the office on 9428 7668 or 0403 028 200

YHA

contacts: Ride Co-Ordinator Kathy
rides@yhacycling.org.au or mobile 0425-792 574
 or Secretary Voula on secretary@yhacycling.org.au
 website: www.yhacycling.org.au has free registration

Boroondara BUG Contacts**Membership Secretary & Treasurer:**

Graeme Stone
 16 Jervis Street, Camberwell, Vic 3124
 email: graeme_stone@optusnet.com.au

Newsletter Editor & Minutes Secretary:

Julia Blunden
 phone: 9853 5095
 email: jblunden@bigpond.com

Media Contact & Webmaster:

Jason den Hollander
 phone: 0407 118 891
 email: fdutch@gmail.com

Meeting Chair:

Phil Crohn
 email: philcrohn@ozemail.com.au

Boroondara Bicycle Users Group**Membership Application Form**

Name _____

Address & Postcode _____

Phone (H) _____

Phone (M) _____

Phone (W) _____

Email _____

Member of Bicycle Victoria? Please circle: Yes / No

Membership requires a one-off payment of \$15 per household. There is an additional charge of \$10 per annum for delivery of a hardcopy newsletter. Please send cheque (made out to Boroondara Bicycle Users Group) along with this form to:

Graeme Stone
 16 Jervis St
 Camberwell
 Vic, 3124