



BUSTERS

UPDATE

quarterly newsletter of Smogbusters Queensland

March 2001 Issue Number 26

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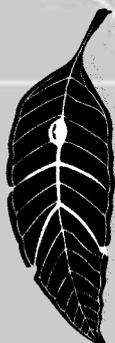
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Queensland Conservation Council

Be a Smogbuster on...

Smog Day BUSTERS 2001

Wednesday, 14th March

The Smogbusters "Big Bang" event of the year is nigh - National Smogbusters Day 2001, Wednesday the 14th of March. If you've been involved in past Smogbusters Days, then you know that (1) it's a hoot!; and (2) it's a great opportunity to get active in the campaign for clean air while also building skills, making new friends and getting some free stuff!



If you haven't had the opportunity to get involved in past Smogbusters Days, here are the basics:

Back by popular demand: free trees

- Smogbusters provide some stuff like free trees, stickers and magnets to reward people who walk, cycle or catch public transport.
- Smogbusters also provide free t-shirts for volunteers.
- Community members organise their own events in their workplaces, schools, universities and elsewhere (with the help and resources of Smogbusters).
- Volunteers gain skills, sustainable transport gains profile, air pollution is reduced, and we go out to dinner to celebrate.

(Story continues on Page 5)

New Smogbusters website:

<http://www.qccqld.org.au/smogbusters/>

Smogbusters Queensland have launched their new website and web address within the Queensland Conservation Council's site.

The new site is your source for:

- back issues of the *Smogbusters Update* newsletter;
- all Smogbusters media releases, position papers and fact sheets;
- an extensive international collection of internet links, and more.

Further improvements will be ongoing, and we always welcome contributions, suggestions and technical advice from our supporters.

Please have a look and tell us what you think.

Editorial Notes

The Queensland state election has passed and Smogbusters hope that the returning Beattie government will now put some real commitment into implementation of the South East Queensland Regional Air Quality Strategy (SEQRAQS), the Integrated Regional Transport Plan (IRTP) for SEQ and other regions, integrated ticketing, integration of buses and trains - all existing policies that only need to be funded and put into action to stop the deterioration of our air.

One easy action that we hope many state as well as local and federal politicians will take up in the very short-term is the "Smogbusters Day Politicians' Green Transport Challenge", 14th March 2001. Can the politicians set a clean-commuting example for the people of Queensland to follow? We hope so.

Smogbusters Day is the single biggest event on the Smogbusters calendar for the year, and we hope you'll make the most of it by getting involved (see feature story for more details), or at least making 14th March a car-free day.

Finally, on Smogbusters Day and beyond, we hope you will play a part in the campaign for clean air. It is the International Year of Volunteers, and Smogbusters is a very volunteer-based organisation dependent on your involvement and support.

Thanks for reading,
Eric Manners, QCC Smogbusters Project Officer



Natural Heritage Trust

"Smogbusters is a joint initiative of the Qld Conservation Council and the Federal Government through the Natural Heritage Trust."

"The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily represent the views or reflect the policies of the Federal Government or Environment Australia."

Smogbusters News

The Smogbusters Way to the Polling Booth

For the recent Queensland state election, voters were urged to take the "Smogbusters Way to the Polling Booth" by walking, cycling, taking public transport or even car-pooling.

We hope to make this somewhat of a national tradition. After all, what better occasion could there be to leave your car at home? Most polling booths are very close by, and a walk or cycle through the neighbourhood is a great opportunity to explore the local neighbourhood, meet friendly neighbours.

And what better day for people to be reminded of the importance of government support for sustainable transport services and infrastructure? (Or as it was stated in the media release: "Leaving the car at home and using a more sustainable mode of transport is a strong statement in itself. And you can make an even stronger statement by placing your vote for candidates who support livable communities based on public transport, cycling and walking instead of more and more cars.")

With a federal election due before the end of the year, you'll hear more about the "Smogbusters Way to the Polling Booth".

Smogbusters Action Group - Brisbane

There's action at the Action Group, as always. Several members are planning Smogbusters Day events at their workplaces, unis etc, while others are helping with the planning for the Day.

There is also talk of a Walking forum in Brisbane, jointly being considered by Smogbusters Qld and Feet First.

Smogbusters Action Group meetings take place every 1st and 3rd Wednesday nights of each month, 6pm at QCC, Level 2, 166 Ann Street, Brisbane. Hope to see you there!

Smogbusters Action Groups outside of Brisbane?

Please let us know if you would like to form your own Smogbusters Action Group outside of Brisbane or SEQ. Help lead the Smogbusters Revolution!

QT's Adrian Webb to talk Integrated Ticketing, 21 March

You may be aware that Queensland Transport is currently integrating all public transport fares and tickets for South East Queensland. However, not much is known about this process and even less is known about the detailed outcomes for public transport users in various suburbs.

To shed some light on integrated ticketing, Mr Adrian Webb, QT's resident expert on the topic, will be attending the Smogbusters Action Group meeting of 21 March to answer Smogbusters' questions about the implications (good and bad) of integrated ticketing for SEQ.

Come along and find out what is happening behind the scenes as integrated ticketing becomes a reality for SEQ.

What: Adrian Webb (QT) on integrated ticketing
When: Wednesday, 21 March 2001, 6pm-7pm
Where: QCC, "Old School of Arts", 166 Ann St, Level 2, Brisbane
Cost: Free

No need to RSVP. Please ring Eric on 3221 0188 for more details.

Mr Webb's presentation will be followed by the scheduled meeting of the Smogbusters Action Group - Brisbane. All are welcome to attend.

Smogbusters Email Networks

(More than just the newsletter)

Smogbusters Queensland have three information networks to keep you informed of clean air and sustainable transport news and events:

- the *Smogbusters Update* newsletter (available by post or by email - quarterly);
- the Smog News Network (clean air and sustainable transport news and events - one or two email messages per fortnight); and
- the Smogbusters Action Network (for Serious Smogbusters! - two or three email messages per week).

To subscribe to any of these services, or to change your details, please contact Eric:

Email smog@qccqld.org.au
Tel (07) 3221 0188
Fax (07) 3229 7992



You Heard it Here First: New Problems for Brisbane's Air Quality

(Brian Clark of Fresh Air Brisbane briefly lifts his finger from the pulse to let us know of some new developments.)

Filters may increase health risks in buildings near major roads

Over the past several years it has been deduced that people living and working alongside major roads in Brisbane suffer significantly increased health risks over people living in other areas. This is especially so on roads undergoing extension and increased traffic flows.

Actual measurements have been made of pollutants emitted from vehicle exhausts and their effect on the indoor air quality of buildings fitted with filtered air conditioning systems evaluated. Currently the most economic way for engineering designers to filter just one of these pollutants, fine particles, is now itself under investigation. In filtering out the majority of these dangerous fine particles the method used and increasingly favoured, appears to increase the chance of those particles it lets through to be 3 to 6 times more likely to remain deep within the lungs. The concentration of these particles is in the several thousands per cubic centimetre, roughly the space occupied by the end of your thumb, and you cannot avoid breathing them in.

Upcoming QCC Environmental Law Seminar

On Saturday 10th March, 9:30am-4:30pm, the Qld Conservation Council will present a one-day seminar entitled "Understanding the Queensland Environmental Legal System", with Brisbane barrister Chris McGrath LLB (Hons), BSc, LLM (Environmental Law).

The seminar is designed to unravel the complexity and difficulty of the Queensland environmental legal system using recent case studies to examine the major pieces of legislation involved, including:

- the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth) - Naturelink Cableway Case Study
- the Integrated Planning Act 1997 (Qld) - Brisbane CityPlan Case Study
- the Environmental Protection Act 1994 (Qld)
- vegetation management laws in Queensland.

The above filter method also increases another dangerous air pollutant that may be further concentrated by the air conditioning system. There are alternative filtration methods available to air conditioning system designers but they are expensive to install and operate together with severely damaging greenhouse effects.

High-voltage near roads creating dangerous "charged particles"

Research being reported from overseas has suggested that high voltage overhead powerlines are implicated in increasing manifold the damaging health effects of air pollutants, especially those pollutants inhaled. The effect is reported as being measurable up to several hundred metres away from the powerlines. This could be very relevant to Brisbane as many high voltage powerlines, up to 110,000 volts in some cases, are sited along major urban roads and are most definitely within the vehicle emission pollution envelope from these roads. A rudimentary survey here in Brisbane has shown facilities such as schools, child care centres, aged care centres, shopping centres as well as many homes are often close to both high voltage powerlines and to major traffic flows.

In both areas, it is clear that more research is needed.



Anecdotal Evidence

(A new section where long-suffering non-car commuters can air their frustrations at the way things are. Contributions by email are welcome.)

Musical bus stops

Public transport users at Griffith University's Nathan campus were recently given the run-around. Many regular bus users were confused on Monday 5th February as their city-bound buses zoomed past without stopping. The 135 and 155 have always stopped opposite the Bray Centre at Stop C.

But why? The answer was found on the inconspicuous sandwich board at the far end of the long narrow bus stop: City-bound buses now leave from Stop A, not Stop C!

And just when passengers had begun to adjust, it came as a surprise the following day when inbound buses cruised past Stop A. No-one had advised drivers of the change!

Not quite so easy as 1 - 2 - 3

Many passengers asking for multi-modal "1-2-3" two-hour transfer tickets on buses and at train stations are finding that drivers and station masters have not heard of the 1-2-3. But it does exist, and passengers whose commute requires a transfer between rail and bus can save several dollars each week (and a bit of time) by purchasing a 1-2-3 ticket from train stations (including ticket machines) or from bus drivers. The ticket is good for a multi-modal transfer within two hours of purchase.

Give the 1-2-3 a try - and don't be afraid to educate your bus driver or station master.

Which bus is that... looks like "E-G-O"

What would we do without the information on the outside of buses to tell us where the bus is headed? Well, some Brisbane City Council bus drivers are helping us to understand this frustration by replacing their route numbers with other three-character messages. Recent sightings have included "DOA" (Dead On Arrival?) and "GOD" (the Almighty?).

For entertainment value, please keep up your reporting. But please also ring Brisbane City Council on (07) 3403 8888 and let them know of their drivers' creativity (as well as the black bus number and when and where you saw it).

The Coalition Page

Smogbusters Access Guides help lead students to Griffith and QUT without their cars

World-class universities provide world-class alternative transport information and world-class alternatives to motor vehicle use for their staff and students.

Staff and students of Griffith University and students at the Queensland University of Technology (QUT) have this year worked with Smogbusters to ensure that good information is made available in the form of a Smogbusters Access Guide for getting to each uni without a car.

The Access Guides provide basic information on walking, cycling and car-pooling to each campus and a more detailed section including all train, bus, ferry and shuttle services and frequencies.

At Griffith University, students from the Student Representative Council (SRC) and staff assisted in the production of the guide covering all six campuses. The University then printed 12,000

Access Guides and posted them to all new students, and the Environment Collective have distributed another 450 physical and 30 electronic (PDF) Access Guides.

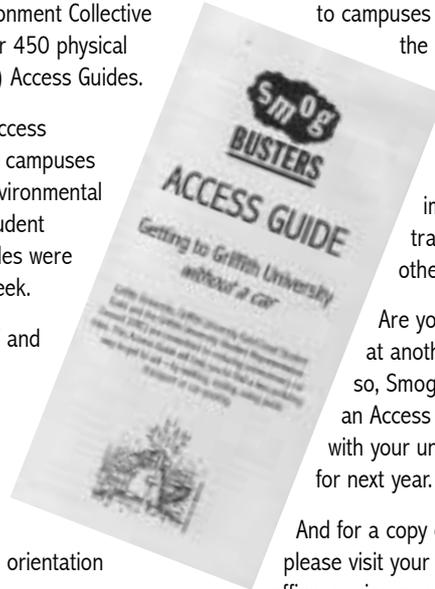
At QUT, timetable and access information for all three campuses was compiled by the Environmental Club of QUT and the Student Guild (SG), and the guides were handed out during O-Week.

Next year, we hope QUT and other Queensland universities will follow Griffith's example and post Smogbusters Access Guides home to new students along with parking permit and orientation information.

Ensuring that students, staff and other visitors to campuses have alternatives to the car is the best way to avoid major capital (and property) expenditure on new car parking facilities. Reducing car use also reduces the university's impact on local air pollution, traffic congestion, noise and other loss of amenity.

Are you a student or staff member at another Queensland university? If so, Smogbusters can help you develop an Access Guide for your uni and work with your uni to have it widely distributed for next year.

And for a copy of existing Access Guides, please visit your GU SRC or QUT Student Guild office, or ring or email Eric at Smogbusters.



Postgrads successfully campaign for public transport concession rights

(Ailsa Kinniburgh sums up GUPSA's successful campaign to give Queensland full-time postgrads the same concession as full-time undergrads.)

Travel concessions were withdrawn from postgraduate students from 2000 without any consultation with the students themselves. After input from many of our members, we at GUPSA decided to use two approaches in campaigning to have them reinstated.



One was to raise a petition for presentation to State Parliament and the other to write directly to the Premier, with copies to all State MPs and Councillors in Brisbane and surrounding shires. The letter set out our case, pointing out that it was a clear case of discrimination against postgraduate students; that the additional financial burden of a 100% increase in train, bus and ferry fares was causing great hardship to postgraduate students who relied on public transport, many of whom would have to discontinue their courses because they could no longer afford to attend university; that the Queensland government was failing to acknowledge the importance of the research and

the upgrading of skills and knowledge which postgraduate students contribute to the State; and that we would welcome the opportunity to discuss these points with him at a meeting. Postgraduate representatives at UQ and QUT agreed to be co-signatories to the letter.

Most MPs and some Councillors responded saying they would either support us at any time the matter was raised in Parliament, or that they had written directly to the Transport Minister (Steve Bredhauer). This resulted in a meeting between the Minister's Policy Advisor and representatives from Queensland Transport and postgrads from GU, UQ, and CQU.

In the meantime the petition received great support from our members but before it could be presented to Parliament the Minister advised us that our representations had been successful. Brisbane City Council is following their usual policy and mirroring Queensland Transport concessions.

For more information about GUPSA, see their website at:
<http://www.gu.edu.au/centre/gupsa/gupsa.html>

Editor's Note: The purpose of the "Coalition Page" is to stimulate interest in a Sustainable Transport Coalition in Queensland. The page will highlight some of the common concerns and solutions that would bring such a coalition together. Future contributions are welcomed from groups concerned about growing motor vehicle use!

Earth Car Free Day - 19 April 2001

Earth Car Free Day is to be held on Thursday, April 19th, 2001. Led by The Commons and Earth Day Network, the goal is to spark and support thousands of celebratory events and striking demonstrations around the world: all based on the common theme of personal responsibility, citizen-based activism, and vital new public/private/community partnerships.

For more information, see the Earth Car Free Day website at:
<http://www.ecoplan.org/carfreeday/EarthCFD/>

Please let us know if you can help Smogbusters make Brisbane car free on 19 April.

Smogbusters Day 2001

Smogbusters Day 2001,
Continued from Page 1...

Calling all volunteers

As Smogbusters Day is a volunteer-based event, it is also notable that 2001 is the International Year of Volunteers. For this reason especially, we hope Smogbusters Day 2001 will be the biggest yet, with more volunteers organising and helping out with more individual events all around Queensland.

Sounds HUGE and intimidating, but it's not. You don't have to be an expert in air pollution science or be an experienced community activist. You just have to care about clean air.

The first National Smogbusters Day was held in 1999 to promote public transport, cycling and walking. The day evolved from earlier events such as National Public Transport Day in 1996 and Queensland TravelSmart Days in 1997 and 1998.

For Smogbusters Day 2000, we tried a "community development" model - instead of organising one centralised event ourselves, we helped others to organise events in their own

schools, universities, workplaces and neighbourhoods. The result was better than we could have hoped, with 15 different Smogbusters Day events all drawing attention to the solutions to air pollution, and with 15 different volunteer event coordinators gaining valuable community mobilisation skills and recruiting dozens of additional volunteers along the way.

For Smogbusters Day 2001, we hope to expand

Smog Day
BUSTERS 2001
Wednesday, 14th March

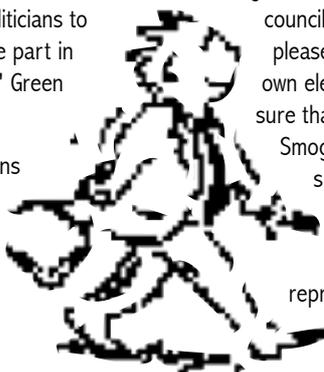
this community development phenomenon even further, and spread the message of clean air along with it. Brisbane City Council have donated 1000 free native trees and we will supplement this bounty with additional trees, stickers and magnets of our own. And if our Queensland Government International Year of Volunteers grant application is successful, we'll have even more.

The Smogbusters Day "Politicians' Green Transport Challenge"

How will your local councillor, state member or federal MP get to work on Smogbusters Day?

We've challenged Queensland politicians to leave their cars at home and take part in the Smogbusters Day "Politicians' Green Transport Challenge".

Smogbusters have faxed invitations to a number of local, state and federal representatives asking them to participate in the Challenge by (1) using a less-polluting mode of transport; and (2) working with local schools, universities or community groups to increase local awareness of Smogbusters Day



and the solutions to air pollution.

Though we have approached some local councillors, state MLAs and federal MPs, please do not hesitate to contact your own elected representatives to make sure that they are participating in Smogbusters Day, or to enlist their support for your own Smogbusters Day activities.

We'll see if our elected representatives can be the "public" in "public transport", cycle against the pollution cycle or walk the walk (not just talk the talk) on Smogbusters Day 2001.

How to organise your own Smogbusters Day Event

1. **REFLECT:** Think about what you can do to reduce air pollution at your workplace, school, university or wherever. For a start, look over the "Ideas for Smogbusters Day 2001" section of the enclosed blue flier - but feel free to come up with your own ideas too.
2. **REGISTER:** Fill out the enclosed blue Smogbusters Day flier and fax it or post it to Smogbusters Queensland as soon as possible.
3. **RECRUIT:** Gather up Smogbusters Day volunteers from among your workmates, classmates, club members, neighbours, elected government representatives etc, to help you plan the day and/or hand out free stuff on the 14th March.
4. **ROUSE THE REVOLUTIONARIES:** Publicise your event in local newspapers, shops, on noticeboards and by email to let people know what you're up to. Smogbusters can help by providing draft media releases and A3 posters. You may also like to attend our Media Skills Workshop on Monday, 5 March, 6pm at QCC.

If you're still feeling uncertain but are keen to help make this Smogbusters Day the biggest ever, please ring Eric on (07) 3221 0188 or email smog@qccqld.org.au as soon as possible.

Free Media Skills Workshop, Monday 5th March

Smogbusters will present a free Media Skills Workshop on Monday the 5th of March, 6pm at QCC's office in Brisbane.

Former Smogbusters Project Officer James Whelan will return to provide advice on getting media coverage for local activities. He will be joined by an as yet unnamed journalist, who will be able to give us the "inside scoop" on how to get a journo's attention.

The workshop is specifically tailored for Smogbusters Day event coordinators and volunteers, but anyone is welcome to attend.

If you would like to attend, please ring or email Eric (07 3221 0188 or smog@qccqld.org.au) beforehand to assist us in providing chairs and refreshments for all.

Recent Headlines

Local News

State Government backs study for Gold Coast light rail

Government media release, 9 Feb 2001

Premier Peter Beattie today said the Beattie Government would provide up to \$650,000 to support plans to examine the feasibility and impacts of a light rail system for the Gold Coast.

Mr Beattie said an initial route following the Gold Coast Railway Line -- east to Southport and Surfers Paradise, then on to Broadbeach, terminating at Pacific Fair -- had been identified in preliminary studies by the Gold Coast City Council.

"The network would service major destinations including the Gold Coast Hospital, Griffith University, Parklands, the main commercial centres of Southport, Surfers Paradise and Broadbeach, as well as the casino, Pacific Fair and the proposed new Convention Centre," he said.

National Firewood Strategy out for comment

Environment Australia's National Firewood Strategy, "A Draft National Approach to Firewood Collection and Use in Australia", is out for comment until 31 March 2001. Burning of firewood is a major source of air pollution and adverse health effects.

For details, ring EA on 1800 803 772, or see: <http://www.environment.gov.au/search/whats-new.html>.

Sugar hit for Melbourne bus service

Environmental Manager, 5 Dec 2000, p.2

Backed with a \$16,500 grant from the Australian Greenhouse Office, Ventura Bus Lines last week put two ethanol-powered buses onto one of its Melbourne routes. Launching the new bus service, Sharman Stone, parliamentary secretary to Robert Hill, noted that the transport sector accounts for almost 16% of Australia's total greenhouse emissions. Using ethanol produced from sugarcane wastes instead of petrol or diesel decreases vehicle greenhouse emissions by half, she said.

For more info on Ventura Bus Lines, see <http://www.venturabus.com.au/>

Bus service to be provided from Robina to Coolangatta

Qld Government Media Release, 22/1/01

A new bus service for the southern Gold Coast would provide the missing link between Robina rail station and the Gold Coast's southern suburbs, Premier Peter Beattie and the Member for Currumbin Merri Rose said today.

Ms Rose said the new service would be running by March, travelling express via Robina Town Shopping Centre, Burleigh Heads, Palm Beach, Currumbin, Coolangatta and Tweed Heads. It would take about 45 minutes to travel between Robina and Coolangatta. The service would fill the void until the Gold Coast Rail was extended to Coolangatta.

CSIRO develops air quality forecasting capability

Rehame Newslines

The CSIRO has developed an air quality forecasting system that will allow a suburb-by-suburb description of pollution levels. The forecasts will allow people with respiratory complaints to better plan their activities on high air pollution days. The New South Wales and Victorian Governments are considering using the forecast model.

CSIRO's Martin Cope says a supplementary "green" forecast will be made to show how changes in driving habits could reduce emissions. "We assume that a certain percentage of the population may take public transport in preference to driving the car," Mr Cope said.

CSIRO website: <http://www.csiro.au/>

International News

Oil can't fuel the future: The case for green fuels in the UK

Greenpeace report, <http://greenpeace.org.uk/> (then to "Climate Protection Home")

"The recent debate on fuel prices has ignored the environmental impact of petrol and diesel use and the existence of real alternatives to these fuels. Bio-diesel, gas, hydrogen power and green electricity have a lower impact on health and the environment. Green fuels do not alter the need to reduce traffic levels but they can contribute to major reductions in emissions that cause climate change and air pollution."

Public back fuel tax if revenue is spent on the environment

Greenpeace media release, <http://greenpeace.org.uk/Multimedia/Live/FullReport/2399.PDF>

A recent Greenpeace UK opinion poll revealed that the public is willing to pay the current UK fuel tax (much higher than Australia's) so long as a proportion of it is guaranteed to be spent on the environment. The survey showed that 68% of respondents would be happier paying the current tax if some of it was spent on 'reducing pollution...by investing in public transport and developing green fuels'.



California Holds to its Zero-Emission Vehicle Rules

1/26/01, Sacramento, California

California air officials have voted to hold firm to their zero-emission vehicle (ZEV) mandate, which means automakers must produce between 4,450 and 15,450 electric cars starting in 2003. The California Air Resources Board is keeping the 10-year-old ZEV rules in place, but modified them to give automakers additional options to meet their requirements.

The changes enacted Jan. 25 require automakers to begin putting new ZEVs on California roads by 2003; the number can vary from 4,450 to 15,450, depending on the types of ZEVs each automaker chooses to bring to market. CARB's action also requires 100,000 other highly clean vehicles in 2003, increasing to 400,000-plus by 2006. The Board also elected to begin in 2007 including heavier sport-utility vehicles, pickup trucks and vans in the sales figures used to calculate the number of ZEVs required - which increases the number of vehicles used to calculate ZEV requirements from 1 million to more than 1.5 million. "More SUV sales will mean more ZEV sales," said CARB Chairman Alan Lloyd.

California Air Resources Board website: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/>

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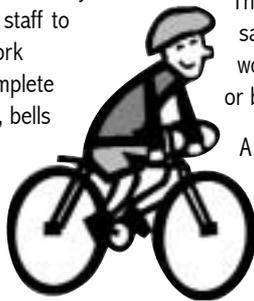
Queensland Transport Staff Go Cycling

(Robyn Davies of QT's State Cycle Unit describes a new initiative that deserves to spread well beyond our department of transport.)

Queensland Transport is practising what they preach by providing a Bike Pool for staff to make short trips across town for work purposes. The two hybrid bikes, complete with helmets, lights, panniers, locks, bells and even a speedometer, are used regularly by staff to commute to meetings and travel between Queensland Transport and Main Roads buildings around Brisbane city.

Staff in the department are enjoying getting a little exercise during work hours. State Cycle Unit Manager Ms Bronwen Thornton said, "Riding to meetings gives a valuable break in the day to clear the head and get the blood moving, so you arrive at meetings fresh and alert. And short trips are no sweat!"

The Bike Pool has also proved cost effective for



Queensland Transport as the department saves on cab fares, fuel, parking and maintenance.

"The bikes will pay for themselves after about only 200km of short trips each," said Ms Thornton, "and they've proved to be time savers as well, as we don't have to worry about parking or waiting for taxis or buses."

A taxi round trip to the city costs between \$15 and \$20 depending on traffic. However a bike trip costs just a couple of calories.

For more information on how Queensland Transport manages their Bike Pool, contact the State Cycle Unit on (07) 3253 4386 or email cycles@transport.qld.gov.au.

The Commonwealth Department of Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business has published a "Cycle to Work" brochure detailing what organisations can do to encourage cycling in their workplace. For a free copy of the brochure, please contact the State Cycle Unit.

Ecological Health Promotion: Conference in June

The 13th National Conference of the Australian Health Promotion Association, "Ecological Health Promotion - Living By Principles", will be held on the Gold Coast the 3-6 June 2001.

The Queensland Division has been working frenetically to make this conference one with a difference. Plenary sessions will focus on the conference theme and will discuss the holistic approach to health promotion by investigating the interconnectedness between health, the environment, social and economic spheres.

To date the following keynotes have been confirmed:

- Chris Church, UK
- Dr Andrew Gilman, Canada
- Alex Wodak, Australian Drug Law
- Reform Foundation and the International Harm Reduction Association

- Patricia Caswell, RMIT
- Hans Saan
- Prof Ian Lowe
- Brett Williamson, Surf Life Saving Queensland

A number of conference sub-themes will be addressed through the concurrent sessions, including:

- Policies for a healthy environment
- Collaborating for health and well-being
- Building communities
- Reflections on practice
- Sustainable programs
- Linking environment and health

For further information, please contact Melissa Stoneham at m.stoneham@qut.edu or on (07) 3202 3044.

AirTrain - Brisbane's new airport rail line

<http://www.airtrain.com.au/>

Brisbane's airport rail service opens in May.

The Australian Conservation Foundation

<http://www.acfonline.org.au/>

Click on "What you can do" regularly for ways you can support the environment.

AquaFuel

<http://www.AquaFuel.com>

The makers claim "AquaFuel" is a non-fossil alternative fuel for petrol and diesel vehicles which is cheaper and "has 99% less emissions than gasoline". Please let us know if you know anything about this technology.

The Environmental Club of QUT

<http://ecqut.virtualave.net/>

The ECQUT helped develop a Smogbusters Access Guide for the three QUT campuses.

ForMyWorld.com Car Search

<http://www.formyworld.com/buyinggreen/carsearch.cfm>

Provides a "Green Score" to all 2000 and 2001 model cars to help consumers find the least-polluting cars, utes and (gasp) SUVs on the market.

"Tailpipe Tally" - Environmental Defense

<http://209.10.107.169/tailpipetally/>

Was your car manufactured after 1978? If so, see this site for detailed information on your fuel consumption, fuel costs, pollutants generated and more, and compare these figures with those of other cars (e.g. your friends' cars or new hybrid vehicles).

The Illness Cost of Air Pollution (Ontario, Canada)

<http://www.oma.org/phealth/smogmain.htm>

If we had one of these for Queensland or Australia, we too would know how much air pollution is costing us as taxpayers.

The Global Urban Indicators Database

<http://www.urbanobservatory.org/indicators/database/>

Outlines whole sets of "sustainability indicators" that provide a better measure of global "progress" than the useless GDP.

Proposed Melbourne to Brisbane Port rail line

<http://www.rag.org.au/newrail/>

A good idea, but information is only available through the Freedom of Information Act. This site has a map of the proposed route between Ipswich and the port of Brisbane.



Queensland
Conservation
Council

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cartoon by Les Robinson

Smogbusters Events

Smogbusters Action Group - 7 & 21 March
(and every 1st & 3rd Wednesday, 6pm at QCC)

5 March - Media Skills Workshop at QCC (p.5)

14 March - National Smogbusters Day! (p.1 & 5)

21 March - Integrated Ticketing with QT's Adrian Webb (followed by Action Group meeting) at QCC

Other Upcoming Events

Feet First: Advocates for Pedestrian Access
- every 2nd & 4th Monday, 5:30-7:00pm, West
End Community House, 4 Norfolk St, West End

Critical Mass - last Friday of each month,
5:15pm, King George Square, Brisbane

4-5 April - Urban Rail 2001 Conference, Sydney,
www.ibcoz.com.au/urbanrail/, (02) 8235 5359

10-11 April - Asia-Pacific Natural Gas Vehicles
Summit, Brisbane, <http://www.angvc.org/>

19 April - Earth Car Free Day! (p.4)

1-3 May - Smart.Traffic: Deploying Incident
Management, Brisbane, (07) 3854 1611,
www.transportroundtable.com.au

3-6 June - "Ecological Health Promotion - Living
By Principles", Australian Health Promotion
Association, Gold Coast, (07) 3202 3044 (p.7)

7-8 June - Managing Mobility: Sustainable
Transport for our Second Century of Federation,
Melbourne, (02) 9875 2855, www.aitpm.org.au

21-22 Sept - 2001 NZ Cycling Conference,
Christchurch NZ, Tel 03 371 1472,
cycling@ccc.govt.nz

14-19 Oct - National Environmental Health
Conference, AIEH, Perth, Tel 08 9361 3112,
www.ldb.org/iphw/

Helpful People

Allergy, Sensitivity & Env Health Association

Dorothy Bowes, asehaqld@powerup.com.au
Tel/Fax 07 3284 8742, www.asehaqld.org.au/

Armidale Air Quality Group

Dorothy Robinson, drobinso@lash.une.edu.au
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Bicycle Queensland

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Brisbane Region Environment Council (BREC)

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Capricorn Conservation Council (CCC)

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Citizens for Public Transport

John Coyle, Tel 07 3288 7953

Feet First: Advocates for Pedestrian Access

Malcolm Campbell, Tel 07 3846 2114

Fresh Air Brisbane

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Friends of the Earth Brisbane

Tel 07 3846 5793, foebribsane@uq.net.au
Bicycle Revolution Co-op Tel 07 3342 7829
294 Montague Rd, West End 4101

Paraplegic & Quadriplegic Assoc Qld

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jmayo@pqaq.com.au, www.pqaq.com.au

Public Transport Alliance

Michael Yeates, Tel 07 3371 9355
m.yeates@mailbox.uq.edu.au

Rivermouth Action Group

Barry Wilson, Tel 07 3399 6204
activist@rag.org.au, www.rag.org.au

Government Resources

TransInfo - SEQ bus, train & ferry timetable info
Tel 131 230, www.transinfo.qld.gov.au

Brisbane City Council / Brisbane Transport

Tel 07 3403 8888, enquiries@brisbane.qld.gov.au
GPO Box 1434 Brisbane 4001
www.brisbane.qld.gov.au

Local Government Association of Qld (LGAQ)

Tel 07 3000 2222, www.lgaq.asn.au

Queensland Government - 07 3227 7111

Queensland Transport

www.transport.qld.gov.au
Smoky Vehicle Hotline 13 20 19

Queensland Environment Protection Agency

EPA Advisory Service: Tel 1800 501 087
Naturally Qld Info Centre: Tel 07 3227 8197
www.env.qld.gov.au/environment/science/air

Qld Office of Sustainable Energy

Tel 1300 369 388, enwise@dpi.qld.gov.au
www.dme.qld.gov.au/sustainable_energy

Environment Australia

Community Information Unit 1800 803 772
www.environment.gov.au



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