

1.
 - A. On the 11th January 2011, 128 homes and 6 businesses in Oakey were inundated by flooding from Oakey/Cooby Creek and Doctors Creek. (figures supplied by [REDACTED] of the TRC Oakey Service Centre). (Map attached at annex "A")
 - B. During the previous 6 weeks Oakey Aviation Centre measured 531.4 mm of rainfall, 304.2 mm in December 2010. Oakey Creek ran for this period, but not at worrying levels. (Rainfall Charts supplied at annex "B")
 - C. On 11th January Oakey/Cooby Creek and Doctor's creek merged north of Oakey and flowed overland causing the flooding. I believe that this was caused by: - (1) The QR bridge over Doctor's Creek east of Jondaryan, (2) The removal of culverts from the railway line and (3) The bridge over Oakey Creek on the Warrego Highway Bypass having an insufficient opening to allow flow.
 - D. DOCTER'S CREEK: For much of its length this creek is only a shallow wide depression with no discernable water course. It is about .5 km wide and 1 to 1.5 m deep. In 2010 a new railway bridge was constructed over Doctor's Creek (see photos at annex C). The supervisor of the above told Mr. Brad Apelt that the new bridge would only raise the head by 600mm. For much of its length this would be more than 50% increase in depth. Historically water from Doctor's Creek ran overland and under the line and across the Warrego Highway. The removal of these culverts and narrowing of the bridge caused ponding up to 12.8 km north of Oakey.
 - E. Cooby/Oakey Creek : This is a narrow shallow creek fed by any overflow from Cooby Dam, Little Gormoran Creek which rises near Goombungee and the flow from the quite wide flood plain between Meringandan and Oakey and runs into Gowrie Creek south of Oakey. The narrowness of Connelley Bridge over Oakey Creek on the Warrego Highway Bypass and the general height of the bypass constricted the flow causing ponding up as far as Muninangeen. (see enclosed 1. letter from [REDACTED] whose family has been on the farm since 1911). On the north western side of Connelley Bridge water was approximately 147mtrs wide and over fence height for 80mtr.
2. The last flood here was 1983. Water did not enter this block. On January 11th approximately 1mtr of water covered this block and approximately 200mm entered the house. From midday Friday until power was cut I monitored conditions by computer, ABC radio and TV till 1am each night. The only gauging station on Oakey Creek is Fairview. This is south of Oakey so was useless. The only reading available for Cooby Dam was in Monday 10th January copy of Toowoomba Chronicle which was 81.9% and was Saturday's reading

Enquiries have revealed that in the past the caretaker at Cooby would ring the first two landholders down stream, they in turn would ring on until the message reached Abrahams who would ring Oakey Police. ██████████ asserts she rang Sgt. Cook of Oakey police, additional calls were diverted to Toowoomba Police.

A.M. hours Monday 10th January I attempted to ring TRC Oakey Service Centre. When they did not answer I drove to the Works Depot. The Lady there said all she knew was that the people who lived at Highfields could not get to work.

11th January at 07.56 rang Office- knew nothing.

11th January at 08.25 rang Office- knew nothing

11th January at 10.05 rang 13500 (SES) WAS TOLD THERE WAS NO FLOODING IN OAKEY AND THAT THERE WOULD BE NONE .

E.R.G.O. ACTION TAKEN BY TOOWOOMBA REGIONAL COUNCIL,POLICE, SES TO ASSIST OAKEY COMMUNITY = NIL

Toowoomba Regional Council Mayor was a long time resident of Jondaryan, was here in the 1983 and was Mayor of the Jondaryan Shire when the Bypass was built, he obviously did not check the figures. As Mayor of TRC when the new QR Bridge was built, despite spending \$10.4 million on experts again did not have the figures checked. The past months have seen dreadful weather conditions over much of the state, The Premier and relevant Mayors have been on the media constantly telling us what had happened, what they expected to happen and what they were doing about the situation. Except for the West Creek/East Creek flood of 10th January we did not hear from the Mayor of TRC. Mayor Taylor did not even correct the media reports that the West Creek/ East Creek water went to Grantham, this fallacy was still in the media 2 weeks after the event.

When questioned by me at a meeting at Oakey Cultural Centre Cr. Paul Antonio (Deputy Mayor) and Cr. Joe Ramia said that they were, immediately after the incident in Toowoomba ordered by E-mail to answer no questions or make any statement, when further questioned about lack of assistance both said, "Well we had to go to Grantham, and we had to look after our own" I presume this to mean the poor unfortunate people missing in Toowoomba. This statement was also repeated to me on separate occasions by TRC employees, it also infers to me that Oakey is not considered part of TRC.(they still sent rates notices).

Page 2 of The Oakey Champion of Wednesday 09:03:11 reports on a meeting at Jondaryan attended by TRC Deputy Mayor Paul Antonio, who is quoted as telling the meeting, "The township needs to form its own Disaster Management Committee". This is proof TRC does not have a plan and does not intend to have one for the area outside Toowoomba.

SES.

[redacted] of [redacted] told me that on P.M. hours Monday 10th January, he was worried about the state of Oakey Creek and decided to sandbag the premises. He rang Sgt. Cook of Oakey Police to enquire about SES help and sandbags. Sgt. Cook rang [redacted] back and told him there were no sandbags or sand and further added that [redacted] would receive a visit from SES. A female person in SES uniform visited the premises and berated [redacted] for causing alarm, "there was no flooding and would be no flooding," she said. This person did not identify herself, but it has been suggested to me that the ladies name is [redacted]. Tuesday 11th January [redacted] was severely inundated. (See Enclosure 5).

P.M. hours Tuesday 11th January while conversing with another male resident in Cherry St. Oakey we were approached by a male person in SES uniform with Team Leader on the epaulette. He told us that Cooby Dam was cracking and buses were being sent to evacuate the town.

This was the only SES uniform I saw during this whole event. We cannot at this stage identify this person.

I REITERATE, WE WERE ABANDONED BY COUNCIL, POLICE, AND SES. To say they were incompetent is to say that they did something and were wrong. THEY DID NOTHING. I firmly believe Mayor Taylor and CEO Goldthorpe were derelict in their duty and should be dismissed from office.

In conclusion. With the amount of rain along the Range there was bound to be some flooding, due diligence in construction of the Bypass and the Railway Line and Bridge and appropriate action by the above Authorities disruption should have been minimal.

I would like to thank the Minister for receiving this deputation and would especially like him to pass on to the Premier and his colleagues our appreciation of the monetary assistance we have received, and especially a vote of thanks to the Angles of Mercy from the Toowoomba Recovery Centre who paddled through the mud and slush and debris to assist us and who continued to keep in touch.

Signed at Oakey 12th March 2011

By Bernard Earsman

[redacted]

- ANNEX A OAKEY MAP**
- B WEATHER CHARTS**
- C PHOTOS OF QR BRIDGE JONDARYAN EAST**
- D PHOTOS OF DOCTOR'S CREEK**
- E COPIES OF PHONE ACCOUNT**

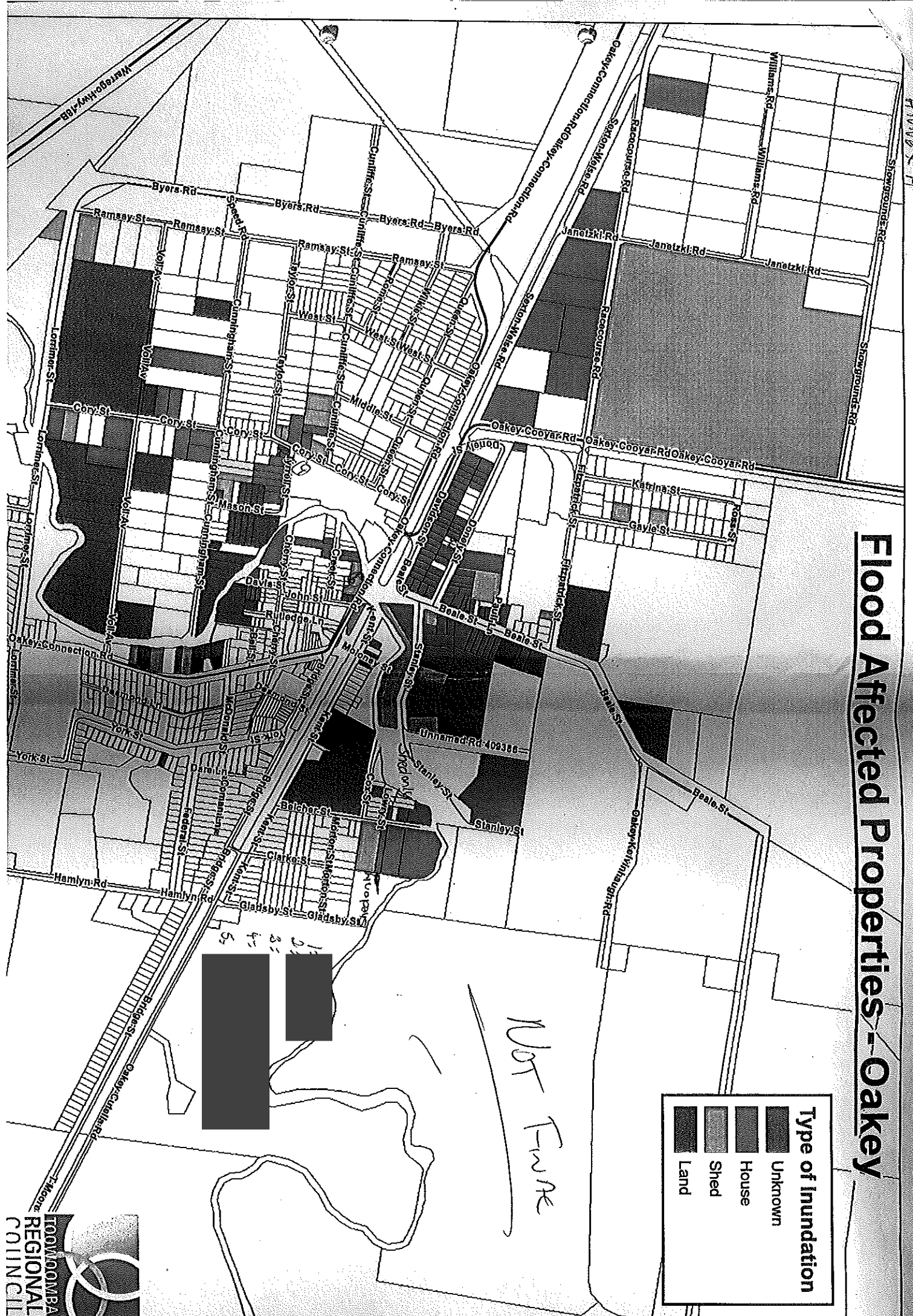
ENCLOSURES

1. LETTER FROM [REDACTED]
2. SUBMISSION FROM MRS. [REDACTED]
3. LETTER FROM [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] OAKEY
4. ARTICLE FROM OAKEY CHAMPION
5. BEFORE/AFTER [REDACTED]
6. ARTICLE FROM CHRONICLE RE HUDSONS
7. LETTER FROM [REDACTED]
8. LETTER FROM [REDACTED]

**C.C. MINISTER
AUTHOUR**

[REDACTED]

Flood Affected Properties - Oakey



Type of Inundation	
	Unknown
	House
	Shed
	Land



Oakey, Queensland

January 2011 Daily Weather Observations

Date	Day	Temps		Rain	Evap	Sun	Max wind gust			9 am			3 pm								
		Min	Max				Dir	Spd	Time	Temp	RH	Cld	Dir	Spd	MSLP	Temp	RH	Cld	Dir	Spd	MSLP
		°C	°C	mm	mm	hours	km/h	local	°C	%	g th	km/h	hPa	°C	%	g th	km/h	hPa			
1	Sa	17.3	27.6	0			ESE	44	09:33	25.0	65		E	28	1013.5	26.1	70	8	E	22	1011.6
2	Su	20.2	31.0	0.2			NNE	65	16:57	25.2	69	8	ENE	20	1013.4	30.1	55	3	ENE	13	1009.1
3	Mo	16.5	30.9	8.8			SSW	52	16:57	25.8	75	5	ESE	7	1010.2	30.2	53		E	17	1005.3
4	Tu	19.7	29.7	0.4			ESE	33	14:05	24.9	70	1	ENE	13	1008.2	28.3	55		E	15	1005.1
5	We	19.2	28.8	0			WNW	44	14:11	25.5	68	1	NNE	13	1007.6	24.3	74		W	15	1003.4
6	Th	17.9	23.2	50.4			NE	28	09:01	18.6	97	8	NNE	20	1004.7	22.6	70	2	E	15	1003.5
7	Fr	17.3	23.9	10.2			E	46	13:11	20.8	84	8	ESE	28	1006.1	20.1	88	8	E	20	1005.7
8	Sa	18.4	26.6	11.0			E	44	07:42	23.8	65	1	E	30	1007.6	25.5	61	8	E	9	1004.7
9	Su	19.4	25.4	4.2			ESE	50	23:39	23.1	79	8	ESE	26	1006.7	21.9	94	8	ESE	17	1004.7
10	Mo	19.1	25.7	64.0			E	61	06:58	22.0	89	6	E	39	1003.6	22.8	89	8	ESE	26	1004.0
11	Tu	19.4	25.8	78.8			N	46	01:41	20.4	96	8	N	9	1007.2	22.2	91	8	E	28	1006.1
12	We	20.4	28.1	6.2			ENE	44	08:38	25.7	69	1	E	30	1009.0	26.1	72	8	E	22	1007.9
13	Th	18.3	28.1	1.6			E	46	11:54	24.5	62	4	E	28	1011.8	27.1	53	1	ENE	22	1009.4
14	Fr	16.8	28.5	2.2			E	41	08:45	23.1	62	3	E	28	1010.5	26.5	54	6	E	22	1007.8
15	Sa	15.9	28.9	0			E	33	15:20	24.0	62	1	E	22	1008.4	28.2	47	2	E	17	1005.5
16	Su	16.0	28.7	0			SSE	46	05:35	24.4	59	1	E	22	1007.0	28.0	47		E	15	1004.2
17	Mo	16.6	32.7	0			WSW	41	15:30	25.3	64	1	WNW	19	1005.1	31.5	50	5	S	17	1000.9
18	Tu	19.7	34.7	0			SSW	57	16:36	28.0	63	3	WSW	11	1004.9	34.0	40	5	NNW	9	1001.7
19	We	19.8	31.7	10.8			WNW	72	16:13	26.8	70	3	E	19	1007.0	29.9	53	6	E	17	1004.4
20	Th	18.4	29.8	16.4			E	48	17:24	24.6	71	4	ENE	17	1008.0	28.4	53	4	ESE	24	1006.4
21	Fr	17.5	28.1	0.2			ESE	50	17:15	23.1	63	6	E	26	1011.4	27.7	54	4	ESE	19	1009.5
22	Sa	14.1	28.1	0			E	43	16:29	23.9	55		E	30	1012.1	27.2	44	8	E	26	1010.2
23	Su	13.9	28.1	0			ESE	33	08:02	23.1	54		SE	20	1010.9	27.6	37		ESE	15	1007.6
24	Mo	14.8	30.5	0			ENE	30	08:05	24.2	59	1	ENE	17	1009.2	29.1	44	4	ESE	9	1006.4
25	Tu	17.2	33.8	0			NE	24	18:45	26.0	56	1	WSW	13	1010.9	33.7	43	1	W	6	1008.2
26	We	20.0	33.1	0			E	35	13:26	25.3	70		E	19	1014.3	32.5	39		ENE	20	1011.5
27	Th	18.5	32.0	0			S	37	12:55	24.9	62	2	NE	13	1015.1	31.6	38	1	E	15	1011.6
28	Fr	19.6	30.0	0			E	44	12:16	26.8	66	0	ENE	13	1012.6	26.5	66	8	ESE	30	1012.4
29	Sa	19.3	28.5	0			E	52	09:34	24.4	57	1	ESE	33	1016.4	26.1	48	8	E	30	1014.7
30	Su	18.3	28.9	0			ESE	50	08:04	24.2	57	1	E	33	1018.4	27.7	55	7	E	24	1016.1
31	Mo	17.3	30.2	0			ENE	41	08:02	25.7	62	3	ENE	26	1017.2	28.9	52	4	ENE	22	1013.9

Statistics for January 2011

Mean	18.0	29.1								24.3	67	3		21	1010.0	27.5	57	5		18	1007.5
Lowest	13.9	23.2	0							18.6	54	0	ESE	7	1003.6	20.1	37	1	W	6	1000.9
Highest	20.4	34.7	78.8				WNW	72		28.0	97	8	E	39	1018.4	34.0	94	8	#	30	1015.1
Total	265.4																				

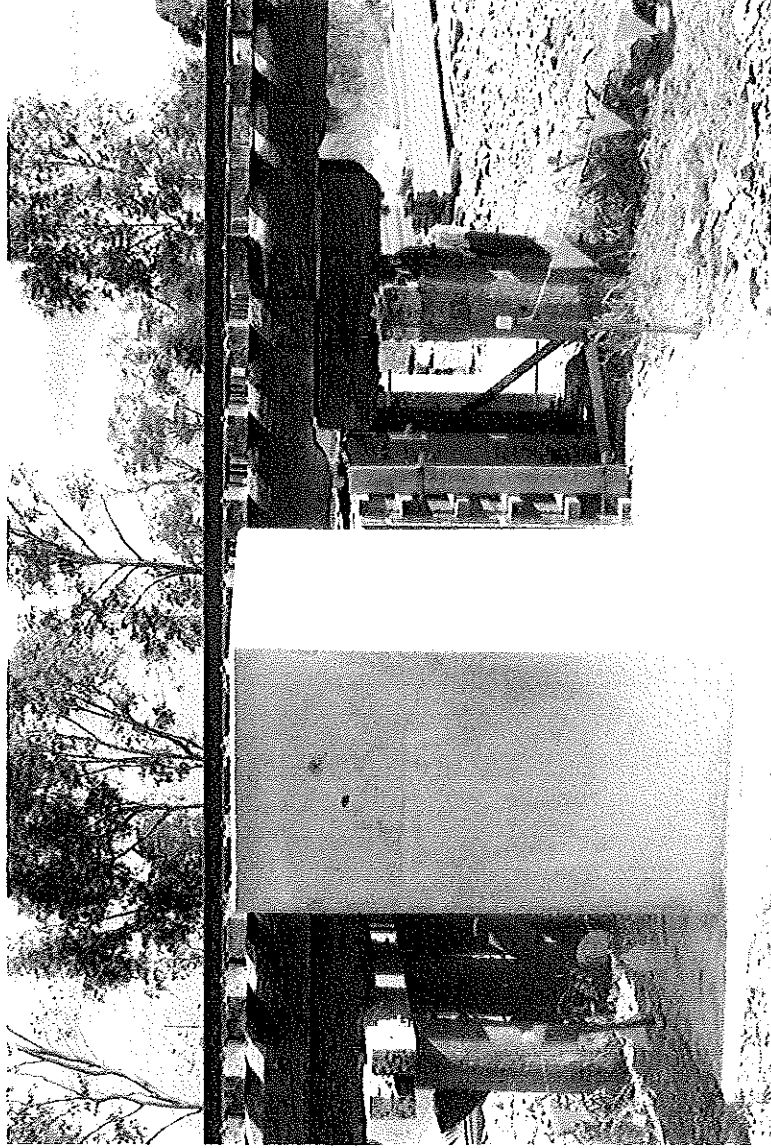
IDCJDW4093.201101 Prepared at 16:24 GMT on Wednesday 2 March 2011

Source of data

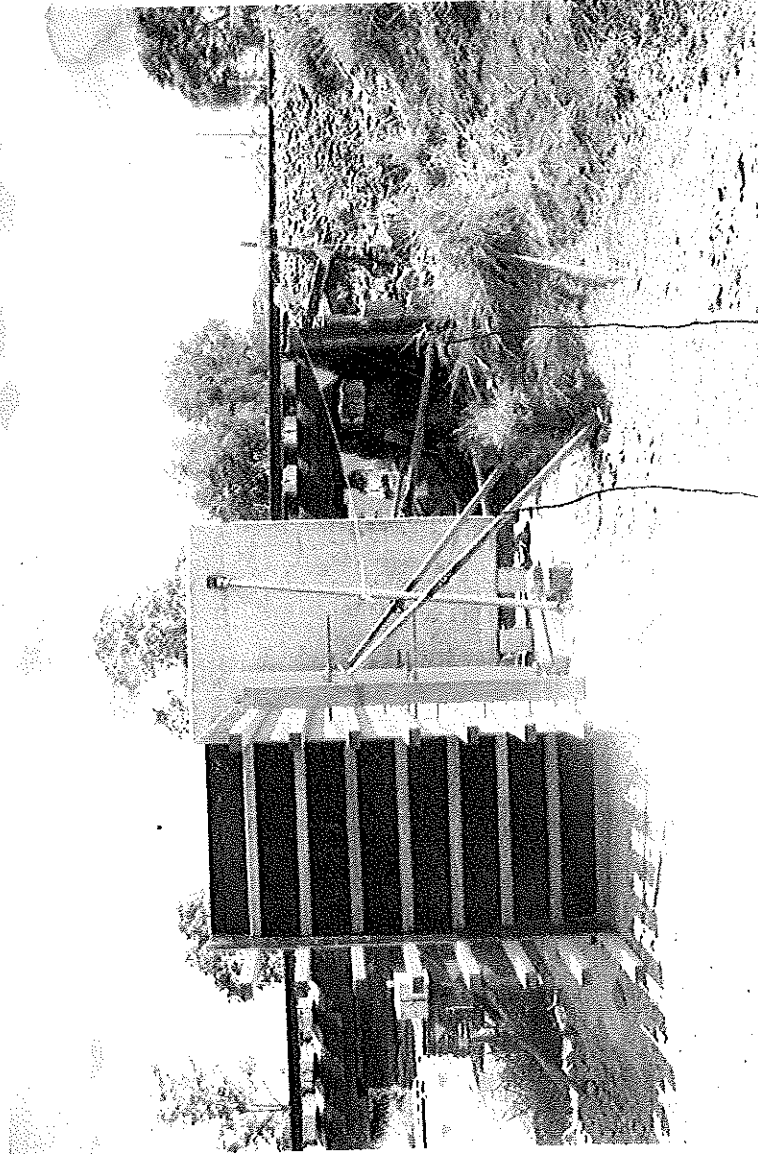
Observations were drawn from Oakey Aero (station 041359).
 You should read the **important information** in [these notes](#).

ANNEX C
PHOTO 1.

Old building



ANNEX C
PHOTO 2



THIS AREA
WAS CALLED
IN. BOY # 2ND



DOCTOR'S CREEK ON PEELBY/MACLAGAN Rd. WEST OF GOOMBUNGEE
 FACING WEST. 1981 FLOOD WENT DEBRIS IN PHONE LINES
 DID NOT INVADE OAKY TOWN.

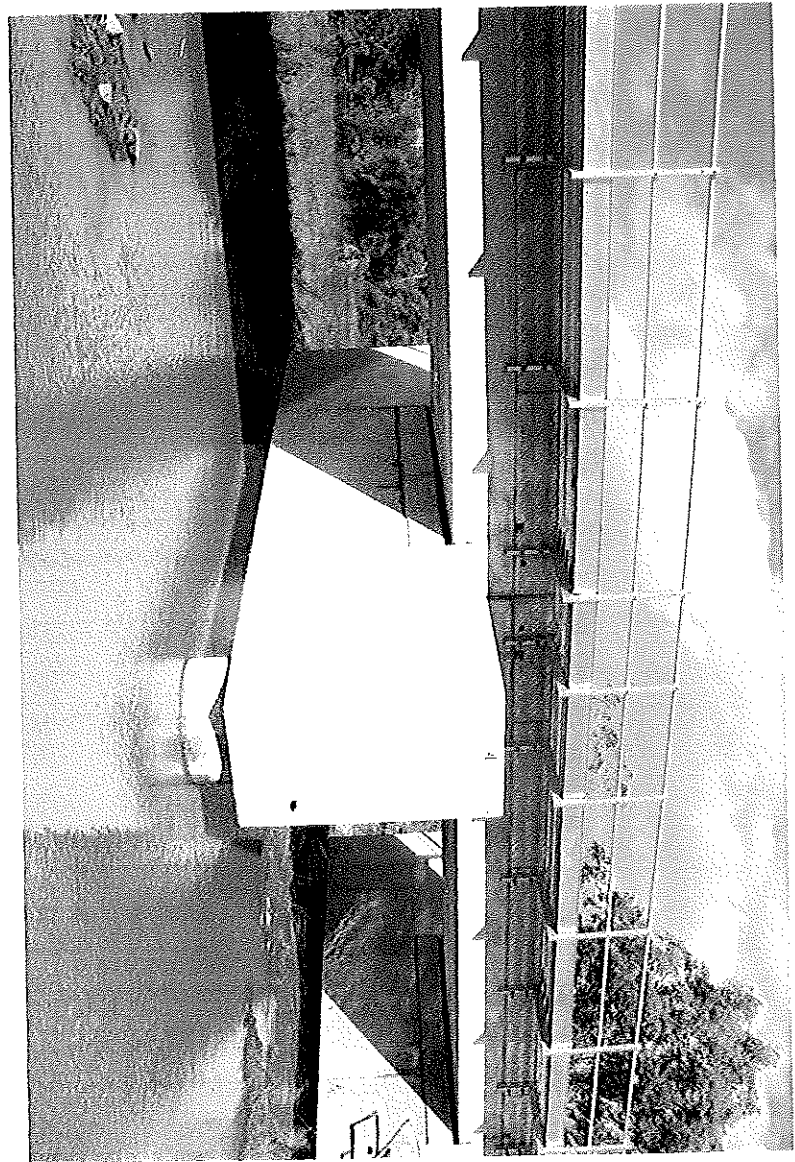
DOCTOR'S CK.
 ON OAKLEY/COOYAH
 Rd.



'DOCTOR'S CK.
 ON DEVON PARK
 Rd. RAISE
 THE HEAD
 = BLOODY MESS



ANNEX C
PHOTO 3



Pages 13 through 14 redacted for the following reasons:

Toowoomba
 CHRONICLE 02.03.11

Let's put historical knowledge to use

LEVEE banks that were up to two metres high were not enough when Cooby Dam went over the spillway in January and thundered right over the top of them as if they were not there.

The council failed to notify farms that were in the flood path, a courtesy that was extended in the past. Not one of council's proudest moments.

What will it take for the Toowoomba Regional Council, men and women that we voted for, to come to their senses and realise we have a major problem here that should be addressed to improve what could be a dangerous situation waiting to happen?

Certain councillors must be red-faced now after the 2006 fiasco where funding of \$27 million for upgrading Cooby and Cressbrook Dams was refused and declared absurd; the councillor saying neither of these dams had overflowed in 16 years and risk of flooding was virtually nil. Council rejected out of hand proposals put up to raise the Cooby Dam's spillway. Imagine how much water we would have retained for use now and in the future if that wall had been raised instead of losing all that water resource into the river systems. How wrong can you be?

The area of concern below the Cooby is no longer just farms and livestock. The township of Oakey has grown into a reasonably sized country town with a population of 3657 (2001 Census). Previous to the dam overflowing, the town and district was able to manage the record high waters on two or three occasions from both the Meringandan and Gomoran creeks. There was some flooding but it was manageable. And that is the operative word. If Cooby had been managed properly with operational sluice gates that would have allowed water to be released gradually before it filled up and overflowed, there would not have been the subsequent uncontrolled wall of water coming over the spillway that decimated everything in its path. That was the danger. That caused the gouging, raging torrents that ripped through farms and the town of Oakey carrying away both rural and town livelihoods.

The other factor towards the large area of flooding was the inability of the Oakey creek to flow and get rid of the water quickly due to an amassing of overgrown trees, shrubs and debris which had accumulated. Approximately 6km needed to be cleared through the Boodua area.

There is no argument with the deputy mayor, Paul Antonio; we agree the Cooby Dam held waters back ... until it was full to overflowing with no control measures in place to curtail its wild uncontrolled flow, nature at her most dangerous.

The important question is - why was the sluice tunnel not cleared when the dam was at eight per cent capacity? I guess we will never know because council is not going to tell us.

For 73 years I have lived on this farm, as did my father and grandfather since 1911 and I know which creeks cause the problem and have raised levies to protect our farms. I will have to raise them again as this flood just rolled over the ones we had in place, destroying laying hens, chickens, pullets, damaged sheds, graded eggs, egg packaging, mill shed, pallets of ingredients, grain, hay, cattle sheds, most fences and loss of production for at least six months.

Now the dam is full again and our wet season has just begun. There is the very clear possibility of further heavy rains. Is it possible for the council to become proactive, see the possibility of a threat and use more of the water from the Cooby Dam for town use to maintain a lower level? Surely, this would also cut the cost of pumping water uphill from the other two dams?

It's not helpful for council members branding concerned citizens of being un-Australian or being un-Queensland. We are all pulling together but we have seen a problem and a possible solution and, yes, we maybe stating the obvious. But how many times do we have to point something out before we get a response?

Let's accept the lessons together but let's do it better this time and have open discussion. Let's put to good use some of the historical knowledge on hand; put in the preparations that will allow us to manage nature a little better, rather than stare in horror at the raging torrents around us.

Boodua

Flooding

Floodwater Potential :- The water that comes past and through Oakey is Gowrie Creek, Westbrook creek, and Oakey Creek (including Meringandan, Cooby, Gormoran Douglas and Little Gormoran (Coombungee) creeks. These creeks have a catchment of 1,000 sq. kilometres. and add Doctors Creek for another 150 sq. km. all feeding off the Range Country there is the likely hood of a greater volume of water equal and higher than the 1965, 1974 & 1983 flood. as more clearing of trees & grass land, more sealed roads & more houses and shed roofs to shed quickly.

In 1965 July 17 we had been in severe Drought like the last 5 years, all dams dry or nearly including Lake Cooby & we received 7 inches 175 mm. in 24 hours for that Flood. This time all small dams were full & Lake Cooby nearly full.

In the Past, once the Oakey Creek water went past the dump it could spread out over the Boolie Swamp Area as it joined the Gowrie Creek and the Doctors Creek over-flow joined the Boolie Swamp near the Power Station.

Now With the Bypass all Oakey Creek and the Doctors creek over-flow is trapped by the Bypass and only the small bridges to go thro and we expect the Gowrie Creek could fill them with backwash leaving Oakey & Doctor's Creeks nowhere to go except to flood into the town and up stream to Armybase & Show Grounds.

It is of concern to us: through questioning longtime residents, and observation of the lie of the land, and native grasses growing & map reading that many new 'ground' level (slab floor) homes are being built in the old flood areas. On a quick count 50+ houses will have flood trouble in modest to heavy flows and many more in a 74-83 + type of flood.

Of concern is Russell, Whittle & Cory St 'South',
 New houses in Voll, Cunningham, Mason & Syall Sts,
 New houses in Lourie, Cox, Morton, Gladby, York Sts
 and the Eastern Classrooms of the State P. School
 Chery St CWA House + nearby houses + Creek St West,
 also most of the lower houses north of the rail line
 as they get water from both creeks backed up by the
 rail + Road bridges.


Has the council got an evacuation plan for these
 people? and in a major flood an evacuation plan for
 C.W.A. House + CWA Retirement units + If super flood
 for the Hospital?

In a high long flood is there a plan to get food
 medications + staff over Cokey Creek to the Hospital?

Is there a disaster plan for Charlton, Westbrook and
 Camboya Area, Cubicmy, Jondaryan, Bowenville,
 to Cecil Plains + Dalby. because this flood plain is out
 to all road vehicles in flood times for medical evacuation
 or food resupply?

Controler S.F.S.

ENCL 3


OAKLEY WLOS
7/3/11

DEAR SIR/MADAM

IN REFERENCE TO THE FLOOD ON TUESDAY 10/1/11 BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 9.30 AND 10 AM. WE HAD NO WARNING OF ANY WATER APPROACHING US. I WAS GETTING READY TO GO SHOPPING WHICH TOOK ABOUT 15 MIN. I WENT TO THE FRONT DOOR AND IT WAS HAPPING THE TOP OFF THE VERANDER. WE HAVE BUILT 3 FEET OFF THE GROUND. WE TRIED TO RING THE SES BUT COULD NOT GET THROUGH. SO RANG DDD AND WAS TOLD TO GET UP INTO THE CEILING. WE HAD NO LADDIER. SO WAS TOLD TO GET A TABLE AND CHAIR TO GET UP ON. WE ARE ELDER PEOPLE AND NOT ABLE TO CLIMB ON THESE THINGS. EVEN IF WE COULD IT WOULD HAVE BEEN SO HOT THERE AND WAS TOLD IT WAS BETTER THAN DROWNING.

AFTER PUTTING UP ALL VALUABLES, WE
WAITED ON THE VERANDA NOT KNOWING
HOW TO GET OUT. SOMETIME LATER A
VICTIM OF THE FLOOD CAME PAST IN
HIS BOAT AND CAME UP TO THE VERANDA
A TOOK US OFF. AT THAT TIME THE
WATER WAS COMING THROUGH THE HOBSIE
WHEN WE GOT TO THE RAIL CROSSING,
THERE WERE THE FIRE BRIGADE AND
POLICE THERE TO HELP. WHEN WE CAME
BACK THE NEXT DAY IT WAS ONLY
THE FIREMAN HERE AND FROM KING-
THORP AND COUNCIL TO HELP WITH THE
CLEANUP.



ENCH 5

The 2011 flood also sent water across that intersec



ABOVE: In anticipation of Oakey Creek topping the bridge, volunteers helped staff and owners to create a levy aimed at protecting the business.

STUPID

EGOTISTICAL

SENSELESS WOMAN SAID THIS WAS CAUSING
ALARM

ABOVE: As the water level exceeds expectations, frantic efforts were made to shore up the Wolski levy, only to end in heartbreak (BELOW).



Oakey CHAMPION
9/3/2011

ENC 4

Disaster management group required for Jondaryan

Over forty people attended a seminar at Jondaryan last week when issues surrounding the December and January flood events revealed a need for better local coordination.

"The most important issues to come out of the Jondaryan flood seminar were that the township needs to form its own Disaster Management Group, and that some form of early flood warning system for Lagoon Creek and Doctor's Creek are required," said seminar chairman, deputy mayor of Toowoomba Regional Council, Paul Antonio.

Jondaryan experienced major flood inundation on three occasions: the 27th December, 6th January and the worst flood on the 11th January.

Senior Constable Dan Baker from Jondaryan Police said the Warrego Highway through the township was barricaded for many days over this period because of floodwaters over the highway, and to prevent a build up of stranded traffic in Dalby and Jondaryan.

A State of Emergency was declared over the whole area on 10th January and the town came under control of the Toowoomba Disaster Management Group.

Bruce Arthur, chairman of the Jondaryan District Residents' Association said that although the local ABC gave up to the minute flood reports, more local, immediate information was badly required.

Lindsay Evans, a local irrigation farmer, told the seminar that the main railway line in the Doctor's Creek area acted like a huge dam wall and that not enough floodways under the line had been constructed by QR.

Other speakers included personnel from DERM Toowoomba, Queensland Police, Queensland Fire and Rescue Service, Jondaryan Rural Fire Brigade, Jondaryan Woolshed, Centrelink and local residents and farmers.

Several Certificate of Appreciation awards were presented to Emergency Services personnel and to local residents who contributed to flood management operations and who looked after the many truckies and motorists who

were stranded in the town.

A report will be compiled during the next two months and will be presented to Toowoomba Regional Council for future reference.

Copies of the report will be available from the Jondaryan District Residents' Association.

ENCL 6

Help never arrived for stranded Oakey residents

By STUART CUMMING
stuart.cumming@thechronicle.com.au

LIFELONG Oakey resident Brad Hudson has lost faith in the ability of the emergency services to save those in need, after having to rescue his family from a shed roof during record floods.

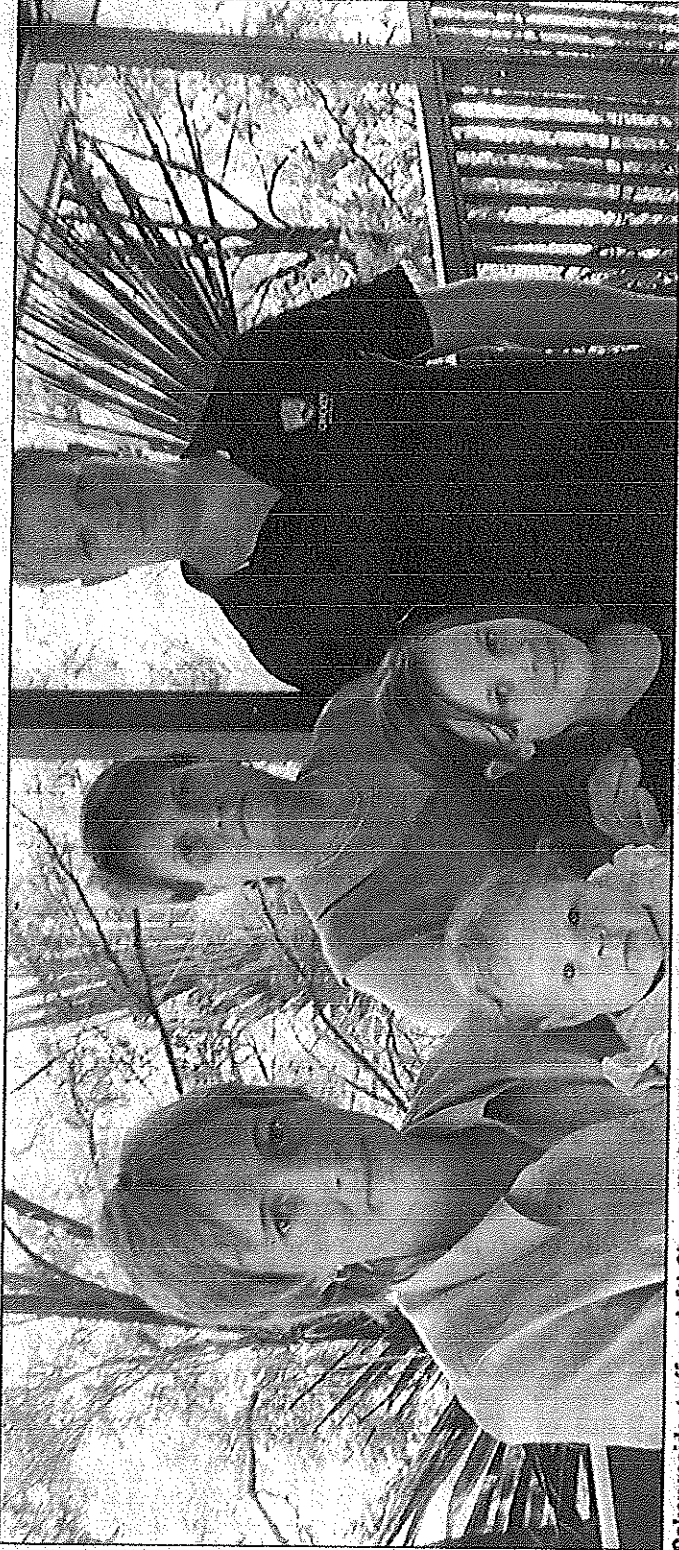
He believes help from emergency services was non-existent when water inundated his home on January 11 and wants a warning system in place in case it happens again.

His mother Helen Potter, wife Sharyn Hudson and their children Alesha, 14, Megan, nine, and Amba, six months, were stranded on the roof of a neighbour's shed. They were there with four other adults, three children and another six-month-old from about 9.30am until Mr Hudson and another man came to rescue them in a boat about 1.30 that afternoon.

Mr Hudson had only left for work at his cafe on the other side of Oakey Creek half an hour before water rose to 1.2 metres in his home.

"It was still 100 metres away from the house when I left."

He said a helicopter that had been organised to rescue his stranded family and neighbours broke down and they had been told



Oakey residents (from left) Sharyn Hudson, her six-month-old daughter Amba, Helen Potter and Megan Hudson, nine, were among those stranded on a shed roof until Brad Hudson could rescue them. Mr Hudson said help from emergency services was non-existent. PICTURE: STUART CUMMING

another was on its way. "But it never arrived."

He and two friends waded as far as they could through floodwater to the balcony of a home about 300 metres away from where his family was stranded.

"I rang triple zero and Toowoomba police and I was told it

wasn't an emergency.

"No-one could tell us if the creek was still coming up.

"I don't want to kick the emergency services in the guts, but there is a big wake-up needed here."

After two-and-a-half hours of waiting on the balcony, Mr Hudson

was able to get the attention of a resident passing by in a boat.


It was then they were able to rescue his stranded family and neighbours.

"As far as I know, no-one was told to evacuate and no-one could find out how high the water was going to come."

"Residents of Oakey, downstream of a major dam (Cooby Dam), should have some kind of contingency plan.

"If we had a little more notice we would have had time to get out. "It was good luck, not good management, that no-one lost their lives here."

ENCH 7

Jan 10 - 11
my dist. 
easy
Typical
creek

Oakey. The forgotten Town Re (floods)

We were shocked to see [redacted] house get flooded. Not realizing that it would come down Crypt. On seeing the water coming up our driveway I rang the S. E. S. No one answered. A recording said don't ring 000 unless life & death emergency. I give up ringing & hung up. We received a phone call at about 11-11-30 the get out to gate & fire truck would pick us up. We did this & it drove off normally. What we didn't know was they had a load & was coming back they didn't know Oakey & told us to go to Hall in Cunliffe st. When we got there our son Ross picked us up to take us to his home [redacted]. I was a nervous wreck. I can't swim and the water was up to the floorboards when we left. We stayed overnight & came back next day. Our son arranged for a electrician to come to check the power. He came & the power was on. In spite of all the trauma our house got no flood damage & we never had time to shift our vehicles etc. But they were spared too. Unless one seen the water & its speed & coverage. It would be hard to believe. It happened & now I would like to know of a new evacuation plan. It may never happen again that would put me fine. I feel all of Oakey would like an evacuation plan.

I can realize our SES was working down gullies & snow on the road. At some times these roads were not driveable we only got to Ross House & Doctors Creek had cut roads off

Our son was responsible of our safety [redacted]

[redacted] 49001

P.S. I was walking thru sewerage as
the manhole ^{cover} had popped before I
put my ^{car} in Taylor St. The manhole
cover is near the cor of Taylor
& Cory Sts closest to No 32 Cory.

ENCL 9

Bakey Old
9th March

To Whom It May Concern,

Re Bakey Flood
11th Jan 2011.

0200am: Wake up & went for a drive to
Connally Bridge (Main Bridge) to check water.
On my way back home went down Lyle
St, Mason St & back up Cory St to our house.

0705am: Went for a drive with neighbour to
Connally Bridge & then back home same route
before I went to the intersection of Cory & Lanning
Sts. The water was into Cory St & along Lanning
St both east & west directions & the rd was
totally cut. There was also a sm cause
near the cor of Cory & Cunningham Sts that
was across the rd & deep.

0905am: Went for a drive with husband up
St Quinto Bridge St (A) over railway line (B) into
Davidson St around cor which becomes Beale St
around in Stanley St back into Beale, took photo
& then went back into Cory, Lyle, Mason & home.

2

10.15-20am. Neighbours young girls knocked on door saying, "The cubs coming up Lyrell St x 2". I look up & said "It's already in Cory St" The girls went back into their yard. I was in shed for a short time & just stood staring at the water coming further down Cory St & up Taylor St.

10.30am: Decided to move my car while I could. Put car up Taylor St so water was only partially in it. Walked thru water $\frac{3}{4}$ up valves & went back home to ask my husband if he was going to move our ute out of the garage. He did this & parked our ute 3 hours down which is the highest part of Cory St. I came back from doing this which would've taken 5-10 mins & said to me, "Where's your car keys?" "The car's sitting in water." He went to move my car. By this stage there were many cars & utes in our st & people moving their cars to higher ground. I took a few photos & noticed things in yard starting to float. I put them up higher & went inside to put things against the front door in case water came in. Got cats ready to go. Moved them to shed & hung them up in cages on hoardings. Went to check where my husband was

There was a man walking thru water with a white helmet, shorts, shirt, boots & a yellow raincoat snapped at me, "You need to go" Don't know who he was so he offered no assistance or ask if I was ok. The only official vehicle I saw was a 4 wheel drive ambulance which just drove down & back up the st.

10:45am. (Roughly) Husband returned as he put car at the last gate of the cemetery & had walk thru knee deep water in rubber boots & back home. I told him what the man that walked past said about leaving. He took the dogs & put them in the ute & came back for cat in carrier. I went back inside the house for 3 plastic bags with animal food, medications, handbag, handbook & some paper to do with house. Put a few more things up higher that were floating & husband helped me put washing machine up.

11-11-15am. Husband said to Fire Brigade (Tuhua) he wanted to get ute out. The Fire said to Beren to keep up the turn of Fire Truck.

caused a wave & we got to just past
 & Curcliffe St & the water had stopped. I
 asked 1 line before we left, "Where do we
 now?" He looked straight thru me & didn't
 When we were near Curcliffe St, I asked a
 different line "Where do we go now?"
 shrugged his shoulders. Then when I saw
 1st line I asked him again, "Well where
 we go now?" He said, "I don't know." I
 saw our neighbours son waiting for his
 & told him they were next on the line
 He said to us that people were going
 the Civic Centre & being evacuated to
 by bus. He insisted that we go to his
 house in Russell St. We went & got
 car from top end of cemetery. It was
 roughly 11:15am by now. I went in with
 husband to get car. We went along Cur
 St, @ into West St which was inundated
 water & then @ into top of Taylor St & got
 my car. I had to drive back thru water
 which was quite deep in West St.

11:30am. Met up with neighbours & their son
 drove along the old Manago highway to
 Bypass & just got thru bypass as it was close
 5-10 mins later.