## IAN RICKUSS MP Member for Lockyer



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• Do we need an early warning system for floods? Yes

• Have you ever been involved in a local meeting about flood early warning system?  $\mathcal{N}\mathcal{D}$ 

• Would an early warning system work? Yes

. . . . . . . . . . .

• Had you been advised by Council, or State Government, the highest flood levels in your area? NO

• Had you ever received evacuation information for flood / landslides / fires? NO

Please turn over.

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• Have you ever been advised of a flood management plan? NO

- Have you ever been asked to be on or involved with a Floodplain Advisory Committee? No
- What do you feel could have been done to make your area safer:- See attached info
  Before the flood
- During the flood
- After the flood

Helendale Drive helidon spa qld - Google Maps



It flowed out into neighbourhood.

Merories Rd-

http://maps.google.com.au/maps?hl=en&q=Helendale+Drive+helidon+spa+qld&ie=UTF8&hq=&... 8/03/2011

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Up in Nth Qld they have Cyclone Season and inform the public to have stored food and water, batteries for torches and radio, clear debris from property and most people know how to tape their windows, lock up their animals etc to prepare for a cyclone.

Can the public in general be informed to do similarly in case of possibility of flood? T.V., radio, newspaper ads to inform/educate people. Even volunteer flyer drops.

- Teach people not to panic. Knowledge can take away fear. Be prepared.

- Become a weather watcher and be aware. Listen to weather updates, access <u>www.bom.gov.au</u> Bureau of Meteorology or

<u>www.weatherzone.com.au/qld/darling-downs/toowoomba</u> this website offers 7 day forecasts. You can know when it is going to rain.

- If there is advanced warning and time to do so, use plastic sheeting and sandbagging to keep flood water out of dwellings. Then if possible, go to higher ground with a 'bug out bag' <u>http://www.survivormagazine.net/2008/01/ultimate-bob-bug-out-bag.html</u>

- To have a sturdy ladder in case of having to climb onto the roof with their family.

In case of isolation or services cutoff:

- Stored food and water. (for animals too)

Alternate lighting, cooking, bathing, toileting / power source.

- Some stored petrol/diesel.

- Some ready cash.

- Turn off petrol car engines in flood water - they stall and then don't work anyway. Cars can be towed through a flooded crossing and then they turn back on after they are back onto dry ground.

- Research the area before purchasing house & land. Build house up higher.

- After main danger/crisis is over, check on neighbours, lend a helping hand and share what you have with others who have not.

What do you think? Can we do this?

Just talking with and listening to people, the Lockyer Valley permeates fear. Let us remove this fear with knowledge and education about flood disaster mitigation and management.

Common sense tells us this could happen again. Let's start informing the public how to be better prepared, now! Don't wait, don't hesitate, don't debate. Educate now!