

**STATEMENT OF WITNESS**

Date: 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2011

Name of Witness: Shane William ENGEL

Address of Witness: [REDACTED] Sippel Road, Blenheim, QLD 4341

Occupation: Backhoe Operator

Position: Backhoe Operator with Lockyer Valley Regional Council

Telephone: (Work) [REDACTED] (Mobile) [REDACTED]

Queensland Floods Commission of Inquiry Requirement to Provide Statement No. 1772778

I, Shane William Engel, member of the Gatton Group of the Lockyer Valley Unit of the State Emergency Service ("SES") state:

1: I have been a member of the Gatton SES Group since March 2003.

9 January 2011

2: On the night of 9 January 2011, Dawn Carrillo (Gatton Group Leader) and I were activated to take the Gatton Flood boat into Grantham with sandbags required by residents due to rising flood waters. [REDACTED] accompanied us to supervise the vehicle and boat trailer whilst it was parked at the Placid Hills corner, whilst Dawn Carrillo and I took the boat into the town.

3: This job was actually passed on to the Rural Fire Brigade once we got into Grantham along the water table at the side of the road, as they had a vehicle that they could still drive into Grantham.

4: We were then tasked to assisting the Swift Water Rescue crew, throughout the night, to evacuate people from Harris Street.

5: Dawn Carrillo called Annette Fifoot to ask if she was available to come and support [REDACTED] in minding the vehicle and boat trailer, and answering the phone, whilst

This is page 1 of a statement comprising 4 page/s.

Witness (Shane William Engel): [REDACTED]	JP/Solicitor/Commissioner for Declarations: [REDACTED] <i>Wendy Ollie Scott</i> WENDY OLLIE SCOTT
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Dawn Carrillo and I assisted the Swift Water Rescue members. Annette Pifoot confirmed she was available and would be there as soon as possible. She arrived at 23.50 hours.

### 10 January 2011

- 6: We all finally returned to the Gatton Shed and signed out at 0430hours on the morning of the 10 January 2011.
- 7: [REDACTED] returned home, and Dawn Carrillo and I (Dawn is my partner) remained at the SES Shed, as we were unable to return to our property due to creek crossings being uncrossable. We then slept at the SES Shed for the rest of the night.
- 8: The attendance Log at Gatton SES Shed shows that I signed out at 04.30am on 10 January 2011. I attach a copy of the Log, marked "SWE-1".
- 9: At approximately 0930 hours, we got up and Dawn Carrillo and I went to purchase some breakfast. As we were not doing SES business, we had not yet signed in. Whilst we were out, Dawn received an enquiry call from a Leanne Mildred at Lower Tent Hill regarding the possibility of sandbagging around the house exit points, because they were going away for a few days and were concerned about the rising floodwaters nearby from the Tenthill Creek and the Ma Ma Creek, as their house is in between both creeks. Dawn Carrillo and I went out to the house to do a reconnaissance, and agreed with the owner to return to the SES Shed and assist them in filling about 200 sandbags to completely surround their house with a double layer of bags.
- 10: We returned to the SES Shed, picking up [REDACTED] on the way, as he does not drive, and signed in at 1130 hours. [REDACTED] and I then commenced filling sandbags. Three members of the Mildred family came down to the SES Shed, and together with us, filled approximately 250 sandbags.
- 11: The attendance Log at Gatton SES Shed shows that I signed in at 1130hours on 10 January. See previous attachment of the Log, marked "SWE-1".
- 12: Dawn Carrillo remained in the Emergency Operation Centre, manning the telephones: 07 [REDACTED] Gatton SES Shed, [REDACTED] the Group Leader's phone and [REDACTED] her personal phone (which was also being used).
- 13: During the next few hours I carried out a number of actions, but did not keep a time log as one task seemed to run into the next task, and I did not record anything in writing.

This is page 2 of a statement comprising 4 page/s.

Witness (Shane William Engel):  
[REDACTED]

JP/Solicitor/Commissioner for  
Declarations:

[REDACTED] JP (Qual) Registrar  
WENDY GAE SCOTT,

14: During this time period:

- (a) Dawn Carrillo received a call from [REDACTED] about two people in the creek at Spring Bluff, asking for the flood boat to be activated. I was then instructed to prepare and hitch up the Gatton Flood Boat and carry out the pre-trailing checks.
- (b) Dawn Carrillo received a call at 1429hours from Gary Dorr (in the Local Disaster Management Group) telling us not to activate the flood boat, as we could not actually get there, as the roads were impassable to Murphy's Creek, and he would see if Toowoomba could get down from the top end to Spring Bluff.
- (c) Dawn Carrillo received a call from Gary Dorr to ask that she send a team into Grantham, to warn them that 'the creeks were expected to rise again rapidly that evening and that evacuation would be a wise idea.' I was then activated along with [REDACTED] and Annette Fifoot, whom Dawn had called in, to take the Mobile 1 Truck into Grantham and door-knock and warn the residents. Dawn Carrillo wrote a short memo for us about what to tell residents, and we left immediately when Annette Fifoot arrived. I attach a copy of the short memo, marked "SWE-2".
- (d) I radioed back to Dawn Carrillo saying that we had warned two residents: [REDACTED] at [REDACTED] Gatton/Helidon Road just outside Grantham, and the people in the low-set property just before Armstrong Road on the left. I then said that when we got as far as the garage on the right-hand side, we saw a cargo container coming down the side road (Anzac Avenue) towards us, not on a truck. As the water appeared to be about two feet deep, and our vehicle is not a four wheeled drive vehicle with a snorkel, I had turned Mobile 1 around and was heading back out of town, warning sightseers at the Placid Hills turn off as we passed, and then people at the residences near the Gatton/ Clifton Road junction.
- (e) When [REDACTED] Annette Fifoot and I returned to the Gatton SES Shed at approximately 1600 hours, Annette Fifoot then stayed at the Gatton SES Shed to assist Dawn Carrillo in answering phone calls, and [REDACTED] and I were sent to check out a report from a friend, of a lady not answering her phone in Princess Street. We reported back via radio; that she was not answering the door and a dog was barking inside. Local residents had not seen her. We also advised some local residents, who asked if that area was going to flood, to move to higher ground if possible as a precaution and if it didn't flood, no harm was done. But if it did, they would be safe. We then returned to the Gatton SES Shed.
- (f) I received a phone call from a concerned family member and then went out to a Mr. and Mrs. [REDACTED] who had been advised by their family to evacuate but did not wish to do so. I talked to them and then returned to the Shed and filled sandbags again to build up a stockpile in case they were needed.

This is page 3 of a statement comprising 4 page/s.

Witness (Shane William Engel):

JP/Solicitor/Commissioner for  
Declarations:

[REDACTED] JP (Qual) Reg 210  
WANDA GAYE SCOTT

- (g) SES member [REDACTED] arrived at 1700hours at the Gatton SES Shed to assist. Dawn Carrillo sent her and Annette Fifoot to the Gatton Shire Hall to assist in the Evacuation Centre, with registration.

I make this statement of my own free will believing its contents to be true and correct.

Justices Act 1886

I acknowledge by virtue of Section 110A(6C)(c)(i)(ii) of the Justices Act 1886 that:

- (1) This written statement by me dated 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2011 and contained in the pages numbered 1 to 4 is true to the best of my knowledge and belief; and
- (2) I make it knowing that, if it were admitted as evidence, I may be liable to prosecution for stating anything that I know is false.

... [REDACTED] ..... Signature

Signed at Brisbane this 2nd day of December 2011

This is page 4 of a statement comprising 4 page/s.

<p>Witness (Shane William Engel): [REDACTED]</p>	<p>JP/Solicitor/Commissioner for Declarations: [REDACTED] JP (Qual) Reg 2715 WENDY GAYE SCOTT</p>
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SWE1

# Official Attendance Register

Unit/Group: GATTON

Official use only	DATE	NAME	ACTIVITY DETAILS	TIME IN	SIGNATURE	TIME OUT	SIGNATURE
	<del>8-1-11</del> 9-1-11	[REDACTED]	FLOOD BOAT STAD BAY 18.55	1230	[REDACTED]	22.5	[REDACTED]
SFB/FB	9-1-11	SHANE	"	1230	[REDACTED]	04.30	[REDACTED]
SFB/FB	9-1-11	DOWN	"	1700	[REDACTED]	04.30	[REDACTED]
SFB/FB		[REDACTED]		19.10	[REDACTED]	22.40	[REDACTED]
SFB		[REDACTED]		19.10	[REDACTED]	22.40	[REDACTED]
SFB		Annette Fife		23.50	[REDACTED]	04.27	[REDACTED]
SFB		Annette Fife		16.00	[REDACTED]	04.30	[REDACTED]
SFB		GARY DOX			[REDACTED]		[REDACTED]
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EOC	10/1/11	DOWN		1130	[REDACTED]	22.50	[REDACTED]
SFB		SHANE		1130	[REDACTED]	22.50	[REDACTED]
SFB		[REDACTED]	Phone call to 'Wesley Griffiths @ 14.30	14.50	[REDACTED]	22.5	[REDACTED]
EOC		Annette		17.00	[REDACTED]	22.5	[REDACTED]
EOC		[REDACTED]		17.00	[REDACTED]	22.50	[REDACTED]
SFB		[REDACTED]		09.00	[REDACTED]	22.50	[REDACTED]

The personal information collected on this form will only be used for the official purposes and will only be disclosed to persons who have appropriate authorisation.

SWE2

Residents.

The Sandy Creek is expected to rise again rapidly this evening to a higher level than last night.

We suggest you close up your house ~~now~~, turn off all non essential power and evacuate your property now! You are welcome to go to the evacuation centre at the Gatton Shire Hall.

IF you elect to stay in your property, evacuation later tonight will not be possible. I repeat,