

From:
To: [Flood Inquiry](#)
Subject: Inland Tsunami not a flood
Date: Saturday, 9 April 2022 9:06:42 PM

My husband describes it as an inland Tsunami not a flood. Was it made worse by the new M1?? The water came in & covered the ground from a completely different direction than it had ever come from before & it came so fast.

We had 2 sons & their families lose everything. _____ has been in our family for 3 generations. The home they lived in was supposed to be at least 18" above the highest recorded flood. My son is 6ft 1 in height & he was swimming from room to room inside his home to try & save what he could. Unfortunately this did not work. He is also a 3rd generation plumber, they lost their home, their office (including every file, computers, printers, office furniture etc...) 3 vehicles, mowers, sewer cleaning machine, every electrical tool that he used to run his business, granny flat, 4 motorbikes & much more. How do you ever replace these items. My 4 grandchildren & my daughter-in-law were rescued from on top of their roof whilst my son was lifting everything he could.

Our other sons home is _____. The height was at least 6ft inside the home. He had been renovating the 116 year old home for 18 months with new floors, floor coverings, 2 new bathrooms & a new kitchen. The only thing left to finish was the front verandah. They lost everything from both the house & large shed at the rear of the property.

My husband & myself launched our tinny in the pitch dark at about 3:45am. It was pouring down with rain, the water was rising so fast & it was scary but we had to try & get to our family & anyone else that we could. There were lots of other locals putting their boats into the water at the same time as us. There was no SES or anyone of authority trying to organise who was doing what. The small boats were just trying to go door to door & rescue whoever they could. At one stage we had a quadriplegic man on his mattress in our boat that we had rescued from his lounge room where the water was waist high. If we didn't get him & his wife out when we did he would definitely have drowned within a half hour with the rate the water was rising. Being locals we new just where the homes were located along the road.

One problem everyone found trying to find homes was that the house numbers were under the water so if you were told there are people at _____ there was no way to tell just where it was.

Also as people were dropped off to safety there was no one writing down the names of people that had been bought in & from what address they had been saved from.

No phone coverage made the rescues so much harder. Many people were writing on Facebook that they needed help but unfortunately unless someone saw this then drove out to where the boats were being launched & people being dropped off (_____) no one knew exactly where to go.

I understand the circumstances were out of anyones control but I sure hope people learn from this catastrophe.

Govt grants or whatever they like to call the so called help are just so, so hard to try and navigate. The elderly have no idea where to go or how to get help. Even the young are so very frustrated from going round & round or being left on hold from some phone call.

Telstra have been absolutely hopeless with mobiles, land lines & internet. My son has spent anything up to 2 1/2hrs nearly every day for 6 weeks trying to get some type of service at his property to try & get his business back up & running. Again I realise the flood is very hard circumstances but surely by now with every natural disaster there are different things that either work or don't work to try & improve on each & every disaster.

Both these photos were taken 24hrs before the water peaked.

