

From: [NSW Government](#)
To: [Flood Inquiry](#)
Subject: Floods Inquiry
Date: Thursday, 5 May 2022 12:14:10 PM

Your details

Title Mr

First name Christopher

Last name Eaton

Email

Postcode 2488

Submission details

I am making this submission as A resident in a flood-affected area

Submission type I am making a personal submission

Consent to make submission public I give my consent for this submission to be made public

Share your experience or tell your story

Your story On the night before the flood, I walked from the Tamarind Ave/ Poplar Ave junction to around 70 Tamarind Ave and checked and cleared all the street drains using a shovel to clear away vegetation and litter that might prevent easy access of water. Probably took me 45 minutes. I finished just on dark. At that time water was flowing well and draining easily.

I awoke at 5:30, aware of the deluge. I got up and looked out of the front door - heavy rain but there was no sign of water coming up our driveway which is the signal to move the car from higher ground. Previous floods have taken hours to work their way up our drive, and have never entered our hallway or garage. I went back to bed and came back to have another check by which time water was ankle deep in the hallway and shin deep in the garage - too late to move the car.

The rest of the day was spent lifting belongings into the roof of the garage and from the main level of the house, upstairs. We tied outdoor furniture to the deck and evacuated about 4pm with about 30mm to go before the main level flooded.

I returned to the house at 7:30 the following morning to find that miraculously, we had missed going under by less than 10mm. In some areas it looked like flood water had touched the bottom of the floor (the main level of the house is on piers) but had not come over it. We built in 2008 to the flood level at that time - 3.6 and if I remember correctly. WE lost the car and all possessions stored under the house and items that we couldn't lift into the roof of the garage. The speed have the flood caught so many people by surprise.

Terms of Reference (optional)

The Inquiry welcomes submissions that address the particular matters identified in its [Terms of Reference](#)

1.1 Causes and contributing factors

New developments in the vicinity that have been allowed to raise land.
Wetlands in Tweedshire that have been filled- Kings Coast, Clothiers Creek, Casuarina, Tamarind and Willow Avenue. Water used to get out through what is now Casuarina.
Clogged waterways - neck of the council drain that feeds Cudgen lake and the creek that comes out at Cudgen.
Run-off from the highway at Cabarita turn-off

**1.2 Preparation
and planning**

Better warning for the Bogangar area. The forecast was nowhere near as bad as the outcome. So many cars could have been saved.

Supporting documents or images
