

ATTACHMENT TO FLOOD COMMISSION SUBMISSION.

I was living at South Brisbane at the time and observed the approaching flood with interest.

1. It appeared to me that much damage was caused by floodwater coming backwards up the drains, flooding streets and basements.
2. Melbourne St South Brisbane was flooded mostly, if not entirely by this means. Water was gushing up through a manhole outside the Commonwealth Bank at Boundary St, and was also flowing freely out the staircase which led to the underground carpark of the bank. No doubt other drains helped with the flooding.
3. It took days to pump out the underground shopping area and car park "Post Office Square" opposite the GPO, despite this being a long way from the 'high tide mark' near the Botanical Gardens.
4. It took weeks to reopen the Museum, QPAC, Library etc. some of which also seemed to be flooded via car-park drains.
5. There appeared to be no contingency plan for the busway being closed (for any reason, it might seem) and so it was almost impossible to locate where to catch outbound buses to the south side, which had found their way into the city by other means. The Queen St underground bus station was closed, but I don't know if it actually got flooded.
6. Years ago in England I saw low-lying fields protected from daily high tides by simple wooden flap valves which stopped the tide entering the field, but would allow excess rainwater to flow away at high tide. Something like this made from more modern materials, fitted to each drain where it enters the river would surely cut down a lot of damage next time the Brisbane River floods.

*Yours faithfully,*

