

## **Flooding in Pontypridd**

Following this evenings news report on Wales Today I have decided to inform you of our experience of flooding in the Pontypridd area.

We live at [REDACTED] in Pontypridd and have done for the last ten and a half years, up until last september we have had no problems with flooding whatsoever but have been flooded twice since then, once on September 5th 2008 and again on this Saturday night - 6th June 2009. Though the extent of the damage has not been as bad as many others I have witnessed as a serving Firefighter in the Bargoed, Pontypridd and Tonypandy Station areas in the last 15 years it is still extremely distressing. The cause of our flooding on both occasions has been the inability of a storm drain diectly outside our property to cope with the volume of water draining through it. Following the first flooding last year the Council cleared the drain out but it has either silted up again or the sewer has collapsed.

We are currently awaiting contact from the Coucil to arrange a site visit in order to rectify the drainage problems.

Andy James

[REDACTED]

Pontypridd

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

## Flooding in Rhydyfelin

I am Philip Woods, I live at [REDACTED], Rhydyfelin, [REDACTED].

My property overlooks Masefield Way and Wordsworth Crescent, Rhydyfelin, the site of this weekend's flooding. The council looked at mine and my neighbours' front walls and said that the supporting front walls of our properties have been damaged and could collapse if not sorted out, we are contacting our insurance companies to see if we can claim for the extensive repairs required, but as I am disabled and my wife is a pensioner, we cannot afford to pay the excesses needed.

We do not know what to do, the council official said that if the work is not done in time we may lose our home as well.

Is there any help available?

I will send some photos I took separately to this

Philip Woods





## Flooding in Fairwater Cardiff

Dear Sir

We write in response to your article in the South Wales Echo on 30th April 2009, We were flooded on 5th September 2008 , this being the second time the first being 29th October 2000. On both occasions there was excess rain causing the Ely river to burst it's banks. In October 2000 there was minimal damage as compared to this recent insurance claim, being about £2500.00 as there was only millimeters of water in the house and we were to the best of our knowledge the only house effected in the area. However in September 2008 we were one of 140 properties effected. We had approx 9 inches of water enter the house overnight. The damage was considerable and we estimate the cost approx £25000.00 plus so far, the work is still being completed and has caused huge inconvenience and distress. The insurance policy expired during the claim process and the company did renew the policy to our relief but the premium increased considerably. We are worried that we will be unable to sell the property when we need to do to do so.

There are a number of reasons we believe that we were flooded. Firstly, the barrage which has changed the water table in Cardiff and the excess water on 29th October could not be absorbed. Secondly more housing being built upstream of the river which prevents the water being absorbed into ground it had previously.

We are attaching some photographs our home taken on the night of the flood.

Hope this helps. If you wish to ask us anything regarding the flooding please do so.

Regards

Clive and Janet Palfrey

[REDACTED]

Fairwater  
Cardiff

[REDACTED]





## Flooding in Roath, Cardiff



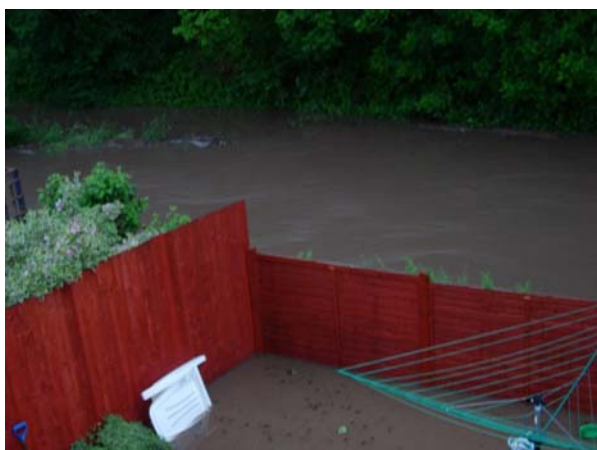
## Flooding in Dinas Powys

I've just spoken to a Mrs Hill ( [REDACTED], Dinas Powys, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] ) who saw the letter in the Penarth Times regarding flooding and the Sustainability Inquiry. She mentioned she couldn't attend the drop-in session on Saturday at the Penarth Youth Project because of the weather but she wanted to put forward the following:

She and her husband have lived in the property for 12 years and have experienced flooding 3 times, most recently last September. The house has only just been made liveable again following the flooding. Previously there had been a major flood in 1999, after which the council acted and the measures they put in place led to 10 years without incident. The third instance of flooding wasn't mentioned.

There are 6 properties on St Cadoc's Avenue which are affected by flooding and the gardens of properties in the nearby Southra Park are affected too, though she couldn't confirm whether the buildings were affected in any way.

The rain on Saturday caused the water level to rise and the family were concerned that flooding would once again occur, though in the end no damage was done.



## Flooding Action in Penarth

Hi Lorraine,

Just saw the article in this weeks Penarth Times regarding flooding in Wales.

As you will be aware the Cardiff and Vale Rescue Association (CAVRA) offers assistance in a variety of situations including adverse weather conditions and civil contingencies. 6 members of our team have recently attended a Swift Water Rescue course in Bala, plus one who is already qualified, consequently, we have the only qualified team in South Wales, and have more higher qualified members than the Fire and Rescue Service.

(We currently have 5 SRT1, 1 First Responder, and 1 Water aware qualified, whilst I understand that the FRS have 1 SRT1 , who has attended an instructors course, plus an unknown number of first responders.)

In addition to this, we have our Boat located in Cardiff Bay, plus an Amphibious All-Terrain Vehicle which is currently kept at Barry Ambulance station, thanks to the Ambulance Service. Our Land rover and search teams operate throughout the area on a 24/7 basis, and have been used a number of times during snow emergencies etc by the Ambulance and Police.

We are currently seeking funding for equipment to operate in such events and wonder if your committee may be able to assist us in securing funding.

CAVRA has recently affiliated to the Inland Flood Rescue Association (IFRA) whose aim is to standardise the Call-out, Training, and Equipment across the UK.

During the floods in Gloucester, Sheffield and Hull, 2 years ago, the Fire & Rescue Service soon realised that they were totally overwhelmed and needed outside assistance, which came from the voluntary sector. The Chief Fire Officer of Hereford and Worcestershire (Paul Hayden) sits on COBRA and has been tasked with securing voluntary service assistance to such events.

The worse case scenario is that if there was heavy rain over several days, with strong winds in the North Sea that there could be a tidal surge, which would cause flooding affecting an area from Newcastle Upon Tyne to Kent, in which case, it is very likely that we would be called to assist.

We have tried to secure funding via the Kick Start Scheme operated the by Vale Centre for Voluntary Services (VCVS) but were unsuccessful, bearing in mind, these events often happen during the summer months, remember Boscastle, and Hull! we need to get this funding in place quickly.

Any assistance that you can offer would be greatly appreciated.

Best Regards

Ivor Davies

Chairman & Operations Officer

Cardiff and Vale Rescue Association (CAVRA).