

Traffic affected by flooding

By GROFTON UTUKANA
TRAFFIC in Honiara was in total chaos after the heavy rain experienced yesterday has caused mass flooding to parts of the city roads.

The heavy rain started early morning yesterday and stopped just after 10 am has prompted all vehicles to rush to their working places.

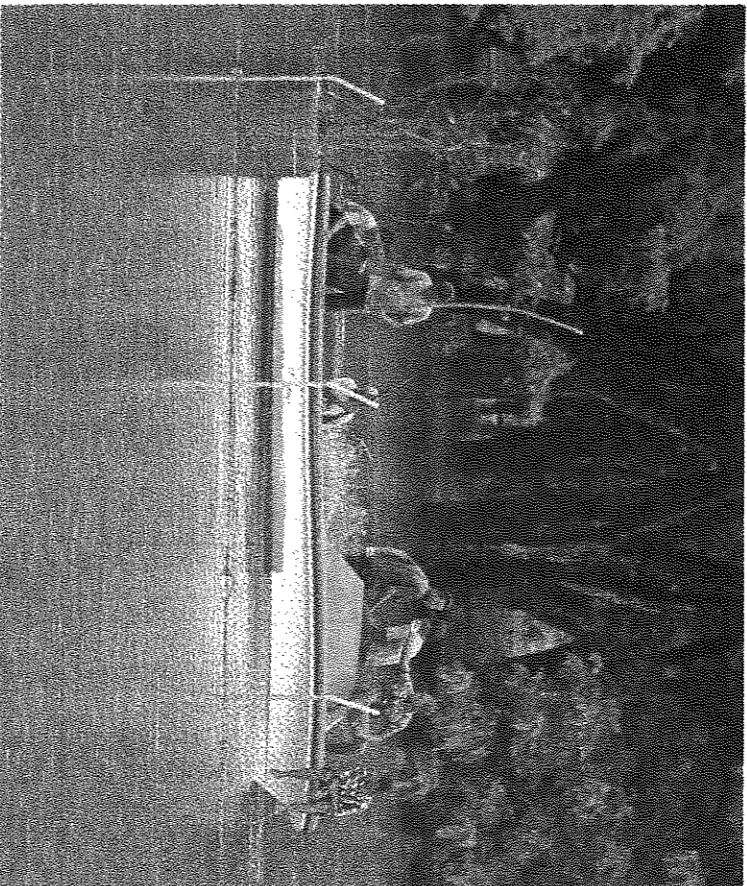
Honiara residents heading to and from East Honiara yesterday successfully made their way but late in the afternoon the Burns Creek road was suddenly flooded and covered the entire road.

Only big and high vehicles managed to drive through the road leaving all low vehicles to remain at both sides of the flooded Burns Creek road.

Most of the people have to walk through the hooded road and catch available vehicles at both ends.

It's the second time for public commuters to experience such disaster following the last year's similar flooding.

Meanwhile, most of the people who witnessed the massive flood were speechless after they could not make their way across the flooded Burns Creek road.



People using boat to move around along the road going up to the Palm Drive school.

Schools suspend classes

By GROFTON UTUKANA

THE massive heavy rain experienced in the national capital yesterday has forced a lot of business houses and schools to close their doors for safety purposes.

Among the schools that closed their doors yesterday was the USP Solomon Islands Campus.

"This notice serves to inform you all that the Solomon Islands Campus will be temporarily closed as of mid-day today (yesterday) until further notice, due to heavy rain and flooding currently experienced at the Capital Honiara," according USP SI Campus Management.

Meanwhile normal business hours are expected to resume for many schools and business houses today.

But this will also depend on our weather.

However, some of the schools which were affected by the flood will not have any classes today until next Monday.

Students sent home

By SOLOMON LOFANA
in Auki

THE bad weather experienced in the country yesterday has forced a number of schools located along the river banks in Malaita province to send their students home early for safety purposes.

Langwata primary school in ward 3 of West Kwara'ae constituency was forced to send its students home for their safety purposes, reports reaching the Solomon Star said.

This is to avoid any accident happening to students and staff.

The heavy rain reportedly affected other schools located at remote areas in the province.

These schools experienced low turn-out of students and teachers who usually travel far distance to reach school.

Chairman of Langwata School board John Liu said the safety of everyone is important rather than putting life of the children at risk.

"It is common scenes that heavy rain can cause flash flooding and natural destruction to human lives or properties.

"Everyone must stay safe and listen for further warning and from weather information authority," Liu said.

It's understood that most schools in Malaita suspended classes early to allow their students to return home.

UN lauded for peace efforts here

PRIME Minister Rick Hou has hailed the United Nation's (UN) peace-building programme in the country.

In his speech to officially launch the new peace-building programme supported by the UN Peacebuilding Fund, Prime Minister Hou said the UN peace-building programme is important for a lot of reasons.

Firstly, the Prime Minister said, RAMSI left Solomon Islands last year and there is a need to sustain the many gains and achievements in the country, as well as deepening of the peacebuilding efforts through accelerating development and reform.

Secondly, the Prime Minister added, as the country prepares for the National General Elections next year, it is important to ensure the integrity of the process and for a clean and peaceful election outcome.

But equally important, the Prime Minister said the UN peace-building programme is also about accelerating development, inclusive participation, and nation building.

He said the current UN programme design should allow for open dialogues on key development issues connecting to peace and stability in the country.

"This is also my Government's commitment, but all of us have to work harder to deliver development and peace in our communities," he said.

Prime Minister Hou said development of the Solomon Islands as a whole is essential to building long lasting peace in our communities.

"We surely cannot have peace at the national level if some of our communities are left behind. Nobody should be left behind. This is our international commitment and it is our government's commitment," he said.

Meanwhile, the Prime Minister also commented the role of the UN Peacebuilding Fund, and Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) which are firm supporters of our efforts to building peace globally.

"I am very encouraged by the strong partnership the Solomon Islands has with the UN family of agencies, more especially the UNDP and the UN Women.

"To that end I would like to take this opportunity to thank the UN peacebuilding team in Solomon Islands who have worked very hard to provide support under the first peacebuilding programme," he said.

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Everyday
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 SBD 50 PER COCKTAIL

Everyday
SEAFOOD BUFFET
 Don't miss out on the Seafood Taste by our finest Chef!
 2nd, 16th & 30th
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