

Radstock Co-operative and  
Industrial Society Ltd.

Telephone Radstock 2142

**COAL TAR SOAP**

THREE BATH TABLETS  
for 1/11

**DETTOL**

(Medium) only 2/6

# Somerset Guardian

**SOMERSET STANDARD**

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## Pensford area of deluge 'disaster'

**A SECOND LYNMOUTH.** That was how people at Pensford in North Somerset described their stricken village yesterday after the worst floods in living memory.

A police spokesman said the village—population 847—was a disaster area.

Army amphibious craft were rushed into the area to help with rescue work. Essential gas, water, electricity and telephone services were disrupted.

Chaos and desolation over a wide area of North Somerset followed Wednesday night's torrential storms, in which Pensford was the worst hit.

Over seven-and-a-half inches of rain fell in the Pensford area.

Radstock and Midsomer Norton had their worst floods for many years, worse even than in 1960.

Frome, so often hit by flooding, did not escape last night's storms and damage. This despite recent work to remove silt under the town bridge.

### *Boil water*

Urgent warnings were issued that all people within a 40 square mile area of Bath should boil water because of dangers of contamination.

The Chew Valley area through to Keynsham was badly hit and at Pensford, where flood water swept away a 50-ft gap in the

A37 Bristol-Shepton Mallet road over the River Chew the scene was described as a "second Lynmouth."

A wall of water took everything before it just before midnight and some people swam for their lives to safety. Others were marooned for hours until rescued by boats.

All available emergency services went to the scene and an Army amphibious vessel was called in to help with the rescue work.

### *Swept away*

About 50 people were marooned for hours and one elderly woman was taken to hospital after being rescued.

Fifty yards of a stone wall and a house were demolished. Cars, sheds and furniture were swept away.

In a matter of minutes scores of houses were flooded, some to a depth of six feet. In low-lying areas of the village the water was ten feet deep.

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