



Yee (centre) showing how high the floodwater rises during heavy rain. — KAMARUL ARIFFIN/The Star

Overflowing with frustration

Kepong folk have put up with floods for seven years due to narrow drains

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THE narrow and shallow drains in the residential area along Jalan Helang, Kepong, are unable to cope with heavy rain, resulting in floods.

Community activist Yee Poh Ping said the flooding, affecting up to 45 houses in the neighbourhood, had been a source of frustration for the residents for seven years.

"During heavy rain, Sungai Keroh in Kepong rises, causing the drains to overflow as they are too small (to cope with the water volume)," he explained.

"The floodwater can rise up close to a metre," he added.

Jalan Helang resident Wong Yu Nan, 28,

said, "The floodwater is very dirty as it flows from the drains and sometimes, there is sewage waste as well. It smells very bad and after flooding, it is hard to clean our homes."

Chong Chee Wan, 66, who has been a resident for 30 years, built a wall of almost 0.8m at the back of his house to prevent the floodwater from getting in.

"Every time it rains heavily, we have to move our furniture to higher ground so it doesn't get damaged," he complained.

Yee said the flood issue had been brought up to Kuala Lumpur City Hall and officers would be paying a visit to understand the situation and find a solution.

"We suggest widening and deepening the drains or building additional drains to help the water flow out from here," he said.