

# Heavy rains flood parts of Britain

June 21 2007

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Emergency crews struggled Wednesday after heavy rains and thunderstorms caused flooding, landslides and power outages in Britain.

The worst destruction was concentrated in the Severn, Avon and Wye valleys between Birmingham and the Welsh border, The Guardian newspaper said Thursday.

The newspaper said almost two-thirds of the historic Severn Valley steam railway between Kidderminster and Bridgenorth was damaged as heavy rain swept away embankments.

Power lines were down in Kent and ambulance crews in Worcestershire trying to reach the marooned village of Shrawley found a bridge over the Severn under water, the newspaper said.

The main village road at Hampton Loade in Shropshire was washed away, leaving about 50 people trapped in their homes.

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