BOGNOR REGIS METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS DECEMBER 2010

RAINFALL

48.4mm (1.9 ins) on 14 days. Greatest fall in 24 hours 09-09h - 8.2 mm (0.31 ins) on the 18th

December 2009 total rainfall - 126.7 mm (4.99 ins) on 23 days.

January to December 2010 - 697.3 mm (27.31 ins) January to December 2009 - 847.5 mm (33.36 ins)

TEMPERATURES

Highest Maximum 8.5°C (47.3°F) on 29th Lowest Maximum -5.6°C (21.9°F) on 20th **Highest Minimum** 4.9 °C (40.8°F) on 30th -10.4°C (13.3°F) on 26th Lowest Minimum

-11.5°C (11.1° F) on 6th and 26th **Lowest Grass**

SUNSHINE

December 2010 -**51.2** hours on **15** days Maximum Sunshine in 24 hours - 6.2 hours on 3rd

December 2009 - 81.5 hours on 22 days

January to December 2010 – 1917.4 hours January to December 2009 - 1895.7 hours

SUMMARY for DECEMBER 2010

It was exceptionally cold across the UK, with mean temperatures some 5 °C below the 1971-2000 average, and the coldest December in over 100 years. It was also one of the coldest calendar months in the last 100 years and the coldest since February 1986. Temperatures quite widely fell to very low values on several nights and remained below freezing during the day. The number of days with air frost was the highest for December for over 50 years. It was briefly less cold around mid-month and temperatures rose to around normal in the last few days. Snowfalls occurred in almost all areas, especially in the first week and from mid-month until Christmas. December was, however, generally drier and sunnier than normal.

It was a dull month in south-east England with around 60% of average sunshine in contrast with the rest of the UK which was drier and sunnier than normal. December started in Bognor Regis with a heavy fall of snow that lasted three days before a deluge of rain washed it away, whilst the rest of the country was still white. Another heavy fall occurred on the 18th which also took a few days to clear, just in time for Christmas when we enjoyed a spell of sunny but extremely cold weather.

A maximum temperature of 8.5 deg.C.was recorded on the 29th. The seasonal average for December is 8.89 deg. C. The minimum mean temp. of -3.1 deg. C. was considerably lower than the average mean of 4.34 deg. C. The sunshine total of 51.2 hours was lower than the average of 67.98 hours and much less than the 81.5 hours recorded in 2009. The total rainfall of 48.4 mm much lower than the average of 82.03 mm. There were 23 days when the air min..temperature fell below zero.