

BOGNOR REGIS

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

DECEMBER 1999

RAINFALL

142.9mm (5.63ins) on 23 days.  
Greatest fall in 24 hours (09-09h) - 26.7mm (1.05ins) on 24th.  
December 1998 total rainfall - 92.1mm (3.62ins) on 23 days.  
January to December 1999 - 686.4mm (27.02ins)  
January to December 1998 - 754.4mm (29.70ins)

TEMPERATURES

Highest Maximum	14.8°C (58.6°F) on 1st.
Lowest Maximum	1.0°C (33.8°F) on 19th.
Highest Minimum	9.1°C (48.3°F) on 7th.
Lowest Minimum	-5.0°C (23.0°F) on 20th.
Lowest Grass	-7.7°C (18.1°F) on 20th.

SUNSHINE

December 1999 - 84.8 hours on 20 days.  
December 1998 - 46.8 hours on 17 days.  
Maximum sunshine in 24 hours - 7.5 hours on 19th.  
January to December 1999 - 2165.5 hours.  
January to December 1998 - 1924.1 hours.

SUMMARY

December was a month of mostly unsettled weather and, as a result, there was a considerable amount of rainfall - nearly twice the seasonal average. However, sunshine was in abundance with the total for the month well above the average. Overall it was a mild month although the period from 12th to 21st was cold with some hard night ground frosts and the first sign of snow during the night 18/19.

The month began with a deep depression moving west to east across the U.K. during the night 2/3. Although there was not much rain, gale force winds lashed the coast on 3rd. A ridge of high pressure moved into the U.K. on 5th to calm down the weather and to bring some sunshine. This proved shortlived when a deep depression took over on 8th to bring strong to near gale force winds on the coast. The weather continued unsettled through to 16th with frontal activity bringing heavy rainfall during the early hours of 12th and during the 13th. Temperatures began to drop on 12th and there followed a cold spell up to 21st. During the night 18/19 there was a moderate snowfall which, sadly for some, turned to rain during the early hours. From 21st the weather became more unsettled with depressions literally queueing up to cross the U.K. The associated frontal activity brought rain, cloud, and at times strong winds. The most active was on 24th, when strong to gale force south westerly winds combined with heavy rain and an exceptional high tide brought flooding to many coastal areas. The weather continued unsettled through to the end of the month and, although in a less wild mood, the days were mostly damp and dull.

The total rainfall of 142.9mm was well above the seasonal average of 75.4mm. 70% of the total was recorded between 18th and 30th. It was the wettest since 1993 (169.8mm).

The sunshine total of 84.8 hours was well above the seasonal average of 62.3 hours and surprisingly the sunniest for at least three decades.

The mean maximum temperature of 9.1°C was just above the mean maximum of 8.7°C whilst the mean minimum of 3.0°C below its seasonal average of 4.2°C. December 1998 and 1997 were marginally warmer.