

BOGNOR REGIS
METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS
JANUARY 1999

RAINFALL

77.5mm (3.05ins) on 23 days.
Greatest fall in 24 hours (09-09h) - 13.2mm (0.52ins) on 15th.
January 1998 total rainfall - 100.4mm (3.95ins) on 16 days.

TEMPERATURES

Highest Maximum	-	12.5°C (54.5°F)	on 4th.
Lowest Maximum	-	3.5°C (38.3°F)	on 10th.
Highest Minimum	-	10.0°C (50.0°F)	on 5th & 20th.
Lowest Minimum	-	-2.7°C (27.1°F)	on 12th.
Lowest Grass	-	-6.0°C (21.2°F)	on 12th.

SUNSHINE

January 1999 - 90.8 hours on 24 days.
January 1998 - 94.7 hours on 26 days.
Minimum sunshine in 24 hours - 8.0 hours on 22nd.

SUMMARY

The weather for January was in the main mild, wet, and windy at times. Rainfall was above average, but unlike most other parts of the U.K. only fractionally so albeit rainfall was recorded on a total of 23 days. However with the previous month's total well above the average, the water table was in most places close to the surface which gave rise to some local flooding. Sunshine was well above the average with the total for December being passed by the 11th of the month. Day and night temperatures were overall exceptionally high - the highest for six years.

The month began with the weather unsettled to provide a mixture of sunshine and showers and blustery winds. Hail was recorded on the afternoon of 2nd. The weather continued unsettled until 7th when pressure built up over the U.K. Temperatures dropped between the 7th and 12th to produce a succession of nightly ground frosts. Low pressure took over again on 12th and the weather became more unsettled. Winds reached gale force on 12th and temperatures began to rise. The weather continued unsettled with a mixture of sunshine and showers and periods of fresh to strong winds. On 21st, a ridge of high pressure took over the weather scene. Early morning fog on the morning of 21st cleared by mid-day to give a sunny afternoon. The high pressure eventually moved away to make way for a low pressure system on 24th. A violent thunderstorm moved through the area around 1700 hours on 26th. It brought heavy rain, thunder, hail, and lightning but fortunately it was short lived. On 29th, high pressure moved into the U.K. from the south west. Pressure built up to record an exceptional high of 1043.3 mbs. on 31st. Normally in such circumstances temperatures would have dropped, clear skies would prevail, and sunshine would have been abundant. Temperatures however, remained mild and it was generally cloudy through to the end of the month.

The total rainfall of 77.5mm was just 2mm above the seasonal average and much lower than that for the same period last year - 100.4mm.

The sunshine total of 90.8 hours was well above the seasonal average of 67.9 hours. The second sunniest since 1984 (98.6 hours). January 1998 boasted 94.7 hours.

The mean maximum temperature of 9.2°C and minimum of 4.3°C were both well above their respective averages of 7.4°C and 2.8°C. It was the mildest January since 1990 (9.5°C and 5.7°C)