

BOGNOR REGIS
CLIMATOLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS
OCTOBER 1999

RAINFALL

53.1mm (2.09ins) on 13 days.
Greatest fall in 24 hours (09-09h) - 14.0mm (0.55ins) on 23rd.
October 1998 total rainfall - 132.0mm (5.20ins) on 22 days.
January to October 1999 - 517.9mm (20.39ins)
January to October 1998 - 617.8mm (24.32ins)

TEMPERATURES

Highest Maximum	-	17.7°C (63.8°F)	on 10th.
Lowest Maximum	-	9.7°C (49.4°F)	on 20th.
Highest Minimum	-	12.7°C (54.8°F)	on 9th.
Lowest Minimum	-	3.5°C (38.3°F)	on 6th.
Lowest Grass	-	0.5°C (32.9°F)	on 5th.

SUNSHINE

October 1999 - 178.6 hours on 28 days.
October 1998 - 113.7 hours on 26 days.
Maximum sunshine in 24 hours - 10.4 hours on 4th.
January to October 1999 - 1970.1 hours.
January to October 1998 - 1760.8 hours.

SUMMARY

October was an exceptionally sunny month with an average of 5.8 hours of sunshine a day. Overall it was mild with the rainfall well below the seasonal average. The weather, unlike that of the previous month was dominated for the most part by high pressure which resulted in many pleasant mild days with long periods of sunshine, although cool clear nights brought the first hint of ground frost.

The weather during the first three days of the month was unsettled but on 4th, high pressure moved over the U.K. to bring dry and sunny weather. However temperatures, especially at night, dropped to bring the first touch of ground frost on night 4/5. High pressure continued to dominate the weather scene through to the 20th when rain, during the afternoon, brought a dry spell of 12 days to an end. Meantime, on 15th the high pressure had begun to slowly move away to the north east of the U.K. leaving an easterly wind, and between 15th and 21st the airflow over the U.K. remained predominately from the east and since it owed its origin to the Russian Steppes, reduced temperatures considerably. The lowest day temperature of the month, 9.7°C, was recorded on 20th. The weather continued unsettled with frontal activity bringing rain and often leaden skies. A deep depression of 976mbs moved through the area on 24th and, together with a high tide of 6.2 metres and gale force winds from the south west, created havoc on the littoral. Part of Bognor Regis' pier was washed away and further east local flooding was very much in evidence. On 26th, there was a build up of pressure to the south east of the U.K. which caused the weather to become more settled. It became milder and drier with a little more sunshine through to the end of the month.

The rainfall total of 53.1mm was well below the seasonal average of 83.6mm and the driest since 1996 (49.3mm).

The sunshine total of 178.6 hours was well above the seasonal average of 127.9 hours and, to quote the Sunday Telegraph of 31st October, the sunniest in the whole of the U.K. However, 1997 would take some beating with 190.5 hours.

The mean maximum temperature of 15.6°C was well above its seasonal average of 14.4°C whereas the mean minimum of 8.3°C was below its seasonal average of 9.1°C.