

BOGNOR REGIS

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

DECEMBER 2000

RAINFALL

118.4mm (4.66ins) on 20 days.  
Greatest fall in 24 hours (09-09h) - 25.7mm (1.01ins) on 12th.  
December 1999 total rainfall - 142.9mm (5.63ins) on 23 days.  
January to December 2000 - 1045.5mm (41.16ins)  
January to December 1999 - 686.4mm (27.02ins)

TEMPERATURES

Highest Maximum	-	13.5°C (56.3°F)	on 7th.
Lowest Maximum	-	1.1°C (34.0°F)	on 29th.
Highest Minimum	-	11.1°C (52.0°F)	on 12th.
Lowest Minimum	-	-3.4°C (25.8°F)	on 30th.
Lowest Grass	-	-7.5°C (18.5°F)	on 30th.

SUNSHINE

December 2000 - 50.8 hours on 18 days.  
December 1999 - 84.8 hours on 20 days.  
Maximum sunshine in 24 hours - 6.8 hours on 30th.  
January to December 2000 - 1812.7 hours.  
January to December 1999 - 2165.5 hours.

SUMMARY

December was wet for the first 12 days when the seasonal average rainfall for the month was surpassed. Fortunately the rainfall was less frequent or heavy for the remainder of the month. Sunshine was well below the average and there were many dull days especially over the Christmas period when just one hour of sunshine was recorded between 18th and 27th. There was a cold snap briefly during the middle of the month and one more prolonged towards the end. Neither did little to affect the mean temperatures which once again were above the average.

The month began with the weather continuing to be dominated by Atlantic depressions with their associated frontal systems keeping the already saturated countryside well topped up with rainwater to create a fair amount of local flooding. Daily rainfall, with the heaviest on 12th at 25.7mm continued through to 13th. Thereafter, rainfall became less heavy and less frequent, and the weather perhaps a little more settled than of late. Throughout this period temperatures remained well above the average. From 16th onwards, sunshine was at a premium with just four hours recorded up to the 27th. From 28th to the end of the month the weather turned very cold with severe night frosts. However, as a bonus the sun made its presence felt. On the last day of the month the New Year's festivities were severely affected when heavy rain and gale force winds moved into the area during the afternoon and evening.

The rainfall total of 118.4mm was well above its seasonal average of 75.4mm but well below last year's total of 142.9mm. The month's total brought the total for the year to 1045.5mm exceeding the previous highest ever recorded - 1042.7mm in 1960.

The sunshine total of 50.8 hours was well below the seasonal average of 62.3 hours, but brighter than 1998 - 46.8 hours.

The mean maximum temperature of 9.2°C and minimum of 5.4°C were both above their respective seasonal averages of 8.7°C and 4.2°C.