

BOGNOR REGIS

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

DECEMBER 2004

RAINFALL

77.2mm (3.04ins) on 10 days.

Greatest fall in 24 hours (09 09h) 31.0mm (1.22ins) on 18th.

December 2003 total rainfall 104.1mm (4.09ins) on 16 days.

January to December 2004 648.2mm (25.51ins)

January to December 2003 585.8mm (23.06ins)

TEMPERATURES

Highest Maximum - 12.8°C (55.0°F) on 23rd.

Lowest Maximum - 4.8°C (40.6°F) on 26th.

Highest Minimum - 9.2°C (48.5°F) on 31st.

Lowest Minimum - -2.4°C (27.6°F) on 26th.

Lowest Grass - -4.7°C (23.5°F) on 26th.

SUNSHINE

December 2004 50.9 hours on 19 days.

December 2003 66.7 hours on 19 days.

Maximum sunshine in 24 hours 6.7 hours on 28th.

January to December 2004 1881.0 hours.

January to December 2003 2126.4 hours.

SUMMARY

December was a relatively mild month with the mean maximum temperature slightly above and the mean minimum temperature slightly below their seasonal averages. It was a dull month, the second month in succession when the sunshine total was well below the average. In fact up to the 24th of the month the sunshine hours averaged 0.9 hours a day and only to be saved from a monthly all time low by the welcome appearance of the sun during the last week of the month. The rainfall was slightly above the average all of which was recorded between 15th and 29th of the month. The month began where the previous month left off with dull weather almost completely devoid of sunshine. It was a cold start with night frosts. On the morning of 3rd, thick fog persisted throughout the morning. High pressure took over on 4th. It remained dull and overcast although day temperatures began to rise. The weather continued dull and overcast and, apart from a rare appearance of the sun on 11th, when 5.8 hours were recorded, continued in this vein until 15th, when a deep depression moved across the U.K. Frontal activity brought heavy rain (9.6mm) with strong winds to the area during nights 16/17. Near gale force winds were experienced mid morning of the 17th with some "twisters" reported in some areas none locally. More frontal activity brought heavy rain (31.0mm) to the area during the evening of 18th to the morning of Bath. The weather continued unsettled and more heavy rain (7.0mm) was recorded during the early hours of 22nd. After a cold day (4.0°C) on 21st, temperatures rose rapidly overnight to go into double figures. This however was short lived with temperatures dropping to bring ground frosts and single figure day time temperatures over the Christmas period. There was some speculation on the subject of snow for Christmas Day, but it was not to be. However, the Christmas period was mainly dry and sunny although rather cold. The bright cold weather continued to the end of the month.

The rainfall total of 77.2mm was marginally above the seasonal average of 75.54mm. The following yearly comparisons are worthy of note; 1999 686.4mm, 2000 1045.5mm, 2001 746.7mm, 2002 940.5mm, 2003 585.8mm, 2004 648.2mm.

The sunshine total of 50.9 hours was well below the seasonal average of 62.3 hours; 1999 2165.5, 2000 1812.7, 2001 1908.9, 2002 1829.3, 2003 2126.4, 2004 1881.0.

The mean maximum temperature of 9.1°C and minimum of 3.9°C were near to their respective seasonal averages of 8.7°C and 4.2°C.

A.E.S. 05 JAN. 05