

## December

After a cold night with an air frost the day on the 1<sup>st</sup> was generally cloudy but dry with a max. of 6.1c. The night was again cold with frost but variable cloud cover, which persisted into the morning, but as the day progressed gradually cleared to leave sunny spells, but it remained quite cold. Max 5.4c the 3<sup>rd</sup> began with a cold night with foggy conditions, which were quite dense at 200m at 0900hr. Another cold day max 5.1c (6.3 by 0900hr on 4<sup>th</sup>). It was also dull with little sunshine. The 4<sup>th</sup> was milder as SW/W ly air brought in milder conditions max 9.9c but it remained dull. The 5<sup>th</sup> was dull and cloudy but mild max. 10.6 The 6<sup>th</sup> was another dull but dry day max. 11.1. The cloud cleared on the night of 6<sup>th</sup> / 7<sup>th</sup> as colder air moved into the area with clearer skies overnight. However the day was dull with outbreaks of rain / drizzle late afternoon, which amounted to only a trace. Another dull cloudy day on the 8<sup>th</sup> with murky conditions, still mild but not as warm. The 9<sup>th</sup> was cooler with some sunny spells max 6.2. The 10<sup>th</sup> was dry and cloudy during daylight hours with the cloud clearing by early evening Max. 6.6c. The 11<sup>th</sup> began with frost and sunshine, with fog quite extensive to west of Bracknell where there was little or no sunshine, but parts of Bracknell 'basked' in over 5 hours with 5.8 hours being recorded at Harmanswater. It was however a cold day with temperatures rising during the evening to a max at 2100hr of 5.7c and continued to rise to reach 6.4c at 0045hr on the 12<sup>th</sup>. The 12<sup>th</sup> was a contrasting day with cloud and no sunshine but dry. Max 5.5c. The 13<sup>th</sup> began dull cold and cloudy, it remained dull all day but dry. Fog formed during the evening with visibility of 800m at 2100hr. Max of only 1.6c by 2100hr. but the air temperature rose during the night to a revised max for the 13<sup>th</sup> of 6.2c at 0900hr on 14<sup>th</sup>. The 14<sup>th</sup> was another dull day but much milder and it remained dry max 9.7c at 1330 revised to 10.2c at 0900hr on 15<sup>th</sup> as temperatures continued to rise during the night. The 15<sup>th</sup> continued the theme of dull days but it was mild and there was 0.4hrs of sunshine. Max . 11.4c The 16<sup>th</sup> saw outbreaks of light rain during the morning give way to a generally dry afternoon with some sunny spells and a few showers. Max 10.7c The 17<sup>th</sup> began cloudy but rain from around 0715 as frontal system passed through area, wind backed ESE (0900hr), ENE (1000hr) and N (1030hr). Temperature fell gradually with wind ceasing 1145hr. The afternoon saw sunny spells and dry. Max 6.2c. The night of the 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> saw temperatures fall steadily under clear skies min 0.4c but cloud was already invading the sky at 0900hr . It remained cloudy but dry all day with rain from 1830hr providing a wet evening / night. By 0900hr on 19<sup>th</sup> 14.1mm had fallen the highest fall of the month. The 19<sup>th</sup> was a sunny but coldish day with 5.95hrs of sunshine max 5.5c. The 20<sup>th</sup> began frosty with a min of -3.7c. The day began with a little sunshine, but thereafter it was dry dull and quite cold. Max 5.3c. The 21<sup>st</sup> the shortest day of daylight was also lacking in any sunshine, another dull day but dry. A few breaks in the cloud early evening saw a slight air frost but thereafter the temperature rose reaching 7.1c at 0900hr on the 22<sup>nd</sup>, the max for the 21<sup>st</sup>. The 22<sup>nd</sup> was a 'rough' morning with rain and strong winds at first but this gave way to cloudy, dry and mild conditions. Temperatures rose in the night to a staggering 11.2c at 0500hr on 23<sup>rd</sup>. The 23<sup>rd</sup> was mild and dry with some sunshine and a max of 12.2c. The 24<sup>th</sup> began cloudy and dry but the afternoon saw outbreaks of rain. Max 10.4c. The 25<sup>th</sup> was a much colder day with a max of 4.7c, dry with sunny spells. Under clear skies, temperatures fell quickly with an air frost from 1736hr. Min by 0900hr on 26<sup>th</sup> was -4.2c. the lowest of the month. The 26<sup>th</sup> was a bright sunny day and dry 6.8hrs of sunshine was recorded the sunniest day of the

month, but it also remained cold a max of only 3.3c was recorded the lowest max of the month. The 27<sup>th</sup> began frosty min -4.1c and sunny but cloud invaded the sky and by mid afternoon it was cloudy and cold. Temperatures rose during the night to be at 7.6c at 0030hr. However, as a frontal system crossed the area with rain this turned to sleet and wet snow as the colder air was introduced, with the precipitation dying out at 0315hr. Air temperature fell as follows: 0130hr (7.6c) 0145hr (7.4c) 0200hr (4.6c) 0215hr (3.7c) 0230hr (3.5c) The air temperature eventually fell to 1.4c at 0800hr, with patchy traces of frozen snow lying on the garden. The 28<sup>th</sup> was sunny and dry with a max. of 5.3c Clear skies overnight allowed temperatures to fall close to freezing and extensive hoar frost was observed around dawn on the 29<sup>th</sup> The day began sunny but cloud increased to leave a cloudy but dry afternoon . Temperatures increased during the evening / night to reach a max of 10.4c by 0715he. The 30<sup>th</sup> dry and generally cloudy although a few breaks allowed some limited sunshine. Max 12.9c the warmest day of the month. 31<sup>st</sup> began cloudy 'damp' and dull but mild with a max. of 11.6c. It remained dry.

### **Month in Summary.**

**Temperture;** Mean maximum and minimum had slight departures from the 30-year (1971-2000) average, therefore no significant however, the Lowest Maximum (3.3c on 26th) was the highest since 1993. Marked fall in air temperature on 28<sup>th</sup> (see above for detail).

**Rainfall;** The Rainfall total of 50.5mm made it the 10th driest in 34 years. Raindays (10) were the lowest for 14 years. No measurable rainfall for 16 days between 28th November and 13th December.

**Sunshine;** Dull first half of month (1st to 15th) with only 12.6 hrs of sunshine including 5.7hrs on 11th.

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