

G E N E R A L C O M M E N T S O N T H E M O N T H .

OCTOBER WAS A MOST UNUSUAL MONTH. RAINFALL WAS ALMOST TWO AND A HALF TIMES NORMAL, YET SUNSHINE WAS ALSO ABOVE AVERAGE BY ALMOST A FIFTH. DESPITE THE SEVERE STORMS IN THE SOUTH-EAST OVERNIGHT ON THE 15TH/17TH, WE DID NOT MANAGE TO RECORD A GALE, THOUGH 9 GUSTS WERE ABOVE GALE FORCE, PEAKING AT 46 MPH.

TEMPERATURES WERE WELL DOWN RANGING FROM A MAXIMUM OF 18.5C ON THE 5TH TO A MINIMUM OF MINUS 1.2C ON THE 24TH. THE 3 AIR AND 9 GROUND FROSTS WERE BOTH ABOVE EXPECTATION.

TOTAL RAINFALL AT 137 MM (5.39 INS) GAVE THE SECOND WETTEST OCTOBER IN OVER 40 YEARS AND THE WETTEST SINCE 1960. RAIN FELL ON 22 DAYS, WITH 16 BEING "WET" AND 8 "VERY WET". FOG OCCURRED ON 4 DAYS. A DEPRESSING, WET MONTH.