



Monthly Weather Summary December 2024

Very Mild – unsettled at times

General and Barometric Pressure

Wet and unsettled at times, but mild throughout, December was very much a 'green month', the only wintriness confined to one morning.

From the 23rd to the month's end it was very mild and then to finish what has been a poor year, the 31st threw up an awful day that was both very wet and windy.

The first week of the month was unsettled and which included 'Storm Darragh' (7-8th) although this was more keenly felt in Wales and SW England.

Heavy rain fell late on the 4th to give 14.3 mm with a further 23.6 mm (6th) and 8.7 mm (7th).

High pressure then began to dominate and it then fell dry through to the 16th, in what was the coolest period of the month; however, the days were cloudy throughout and frost would not be an issue.

Low pressure returned on the 17th but the rain (16.8 mm) was kind enough to fall overnight 17-18th, but which was accompanied by strong winds that gusted to 51 Mph.

The following days were mixed with a mix of light rain and even some sun and included the month's coldest night, a measly -1.7°C on the 20th.

After a coolish day on the 22nd it became very mild, both by day and night. High pressure would be the main influence and again it was dry, for the period 24-29th.

But with winds from the S-SSW the mildness was the main feature. The 23rd may have started with a slight frost but would be the month's warmest day at 12.2°C and with the 24th not far behind.

Apart from the 27th which was a murky day throughout, most days pushed, but just failed to hit 10°C. The nights were mild though with most over 7°C and only the 27-29th failing (just) to hit 5°C.

The year of 2024 will not be remembered fondly for its weather and possibly it was appropriate that it ended with a bad day.

An area of low pressure from the Atlantic tracked NE to the north of Scotland and its associated fronts brought strong winds, gusting to 54 Mph and from 0950h heavy rain that lasted through to 06h the following morning to give a total of 45.9 mm.

Mean air pressure would finish considerably above average for the month, by 9.4MB, as any periods of high pressure were longer in duration and with any depressions tending to move through quite quickly.

Pressure rose to a high of 1041.7 MB (9th), the lowest being 979.4 MB during Storm Darragh.

Temperature

With a mean minimum of 3.56°C and a mean maximum of 8.65°C December 2024 saw the temperature 2.11°C above the fifteen year average for this site.

This saw it being the warmest December since 2015 and since the record commenced (2009), one has been warmer and fourteen have been colder.

The highest maximum during the month was 12.2°C (54°F – 23rd) and the lowest minimum, -1.7°C (28.9°F -20th).

Precipitation

At Maulds Meaburn rainfall totalled 137.2 mm (5.40 in), this being 85.9% of the average for 2007-23, making it the driest December since 2022.

Since the record began (2007), ten have been drier and seven wetter.

Whilst appearing to be drier than average, apart from January, that 137.2 mm would be above average in any other month, including December ... had the December of 2015 not completely skewed the averages.

Locally rainfall at Maulds Meaburn North was 144.5 mm and at Castlehowe Scar 190.2 mm.

Figures from a selection of Environment Agency's rainfall sites were, (figure in brackets being the monthly average for 1991-2020) *'Data kindly provided by the Hydrometry and Telemetry team of the Environment Agency:*

At **Appleby in Westmorland** rainfall of **99.6 mm** (LTA of 97.2 mm) represents 102.5% of its average (1856-2023) and made it the driest since 2021.

Since the record commenced, 101 have been drier and 67 have been wetter.

Kirkby Thore 78.0 mm -- (91.8 mm)

Haresceugh Castle (Kirkoswald) 110.64 mm -- (108.6 mm)

Brothers Water 398.68 mm -- (354.3 mm)

Seathwaite Farm (Borrowdale) 520.4 mm -- (392.5 mm [average for 1845-2023]) represents 132.6% of its average, making it the driest since 2022.

Since the record commenced, one hundred and thirty-six have been drier, forty-two have been wetter and one was the same.

OTHER:-

During the month the following *'days of'* were recorded:

Snow fell on one day, and that was it.

The wind speed averaged 9.13 mph, with a maximum gust of 54 mph (31st).

We had 8 Air Frosts in the month (year 47) -- Grass Frosts totalled 13 (year 99).

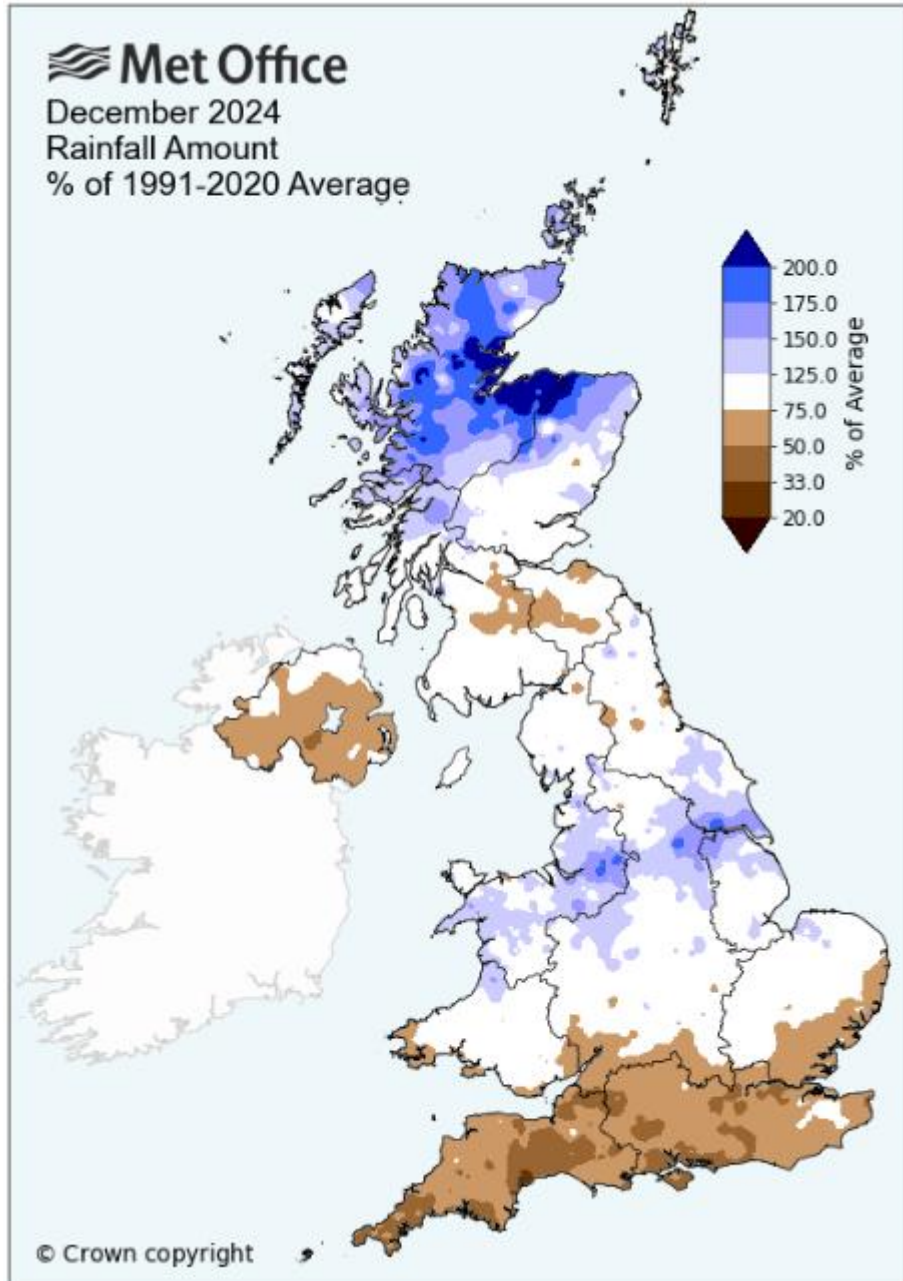
One foot soil temp ranged from a low of 5.5°C on the 11th + 23rd to a high of 7.6°C on the 2nd with a mean of 6.6°C

One meter soil temp ranged from a low of 7.9°C on the 25-26th to a high of 8.6°C on the 4th with a mean of 8.2°C

The year of 2024 has been:

0.53°C warmer than the average for 2009-23 and with 113.8% of average rainfall for 2008-23

December's Rainfall Anomaly



December's Temp' Anomaly

