Durlston weather summary 2014

The period from mid-December 2013 to mid-February 2014 saw at least 12 major storms and was considered the stormiest period of weather that the UK had experienced for at least 20 years. Strong winds and huge waves made conditions dangerous around exposed coastlines, particularly in the south and west. There were major flooding problems in the Somerset Levels and sections of the River Thames. The main-line railway at Dawlish Devon was severely damaged in early February. The "Valentine's Day" storm of 2014 caused extensive damage along the South Coast, particularly at Chiswell and Chesil Beach in Dorset.

At Durlston, the total rainfall for 2014 was 1098.1mm, above the 10 year mean of 949.8mm, with significant and above average rainfall in Jan, Feb, Aug, Oct and Nov. The rainfall of 231.3mm in January, followed rainfall of 221.7mm in December 2013, some of the wettest months recorded at Durlston.

The maximum temperature recorded was 27.2C on July 13th and 27th, the minimum was -2.5C on 29th December, the sole sub-zero temperature recorded in 2014.

January – mild, very wet (231.3mm compared to 10 year mean of 96.7mm), windy, successive storms

February – mild, wet, above average rainfall, windy, gales mid month

March – variable winds, below average rainfall

April – warm, light winds and dry periods, variable wind direction

May – mixture of fair and wet days, above average rainfall

June – warm, below average rainfall

July – hot (27.2C recorded on 2 days), high pressure, below average rainfall

August – mostly fair, light winds, low pressure and rain mid-month, remnants of ex-Hurricane Bertha, above average rainfall

September – mostly settled with light E / NE winds, exceptionally low rainfall (2.4mm rainfall compared to 10 year mean of 94.2mm), one of the driest months recorded at Durlston

October – warm, variable winds, above average rainfall

November – mild, periods of heavy rain and gales

December – variable wind directions, high pressure, below average rainfall, some frosts