

WEATHER 2014

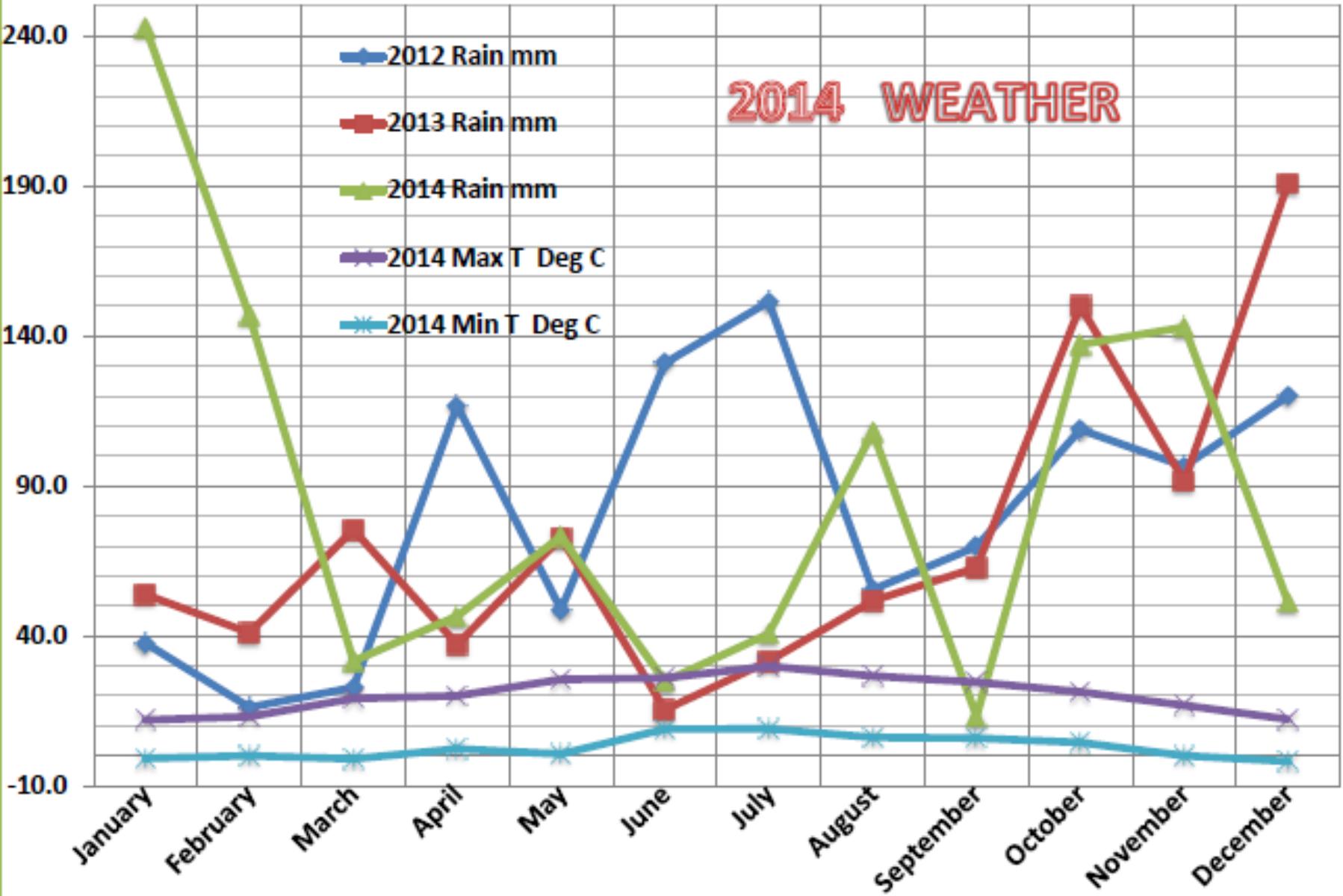
Well January 2014 took over where 2013 let off, it was mild, but the rain came down in bucket loads, with some rain every day and a total of 242.8 mm, the highest I have ever recorded. This rain that started in October 2013 did not really let off until March, over which period we received more rain in these 6 months than we do in some full years (I recorded 766 mm from September to the end of March). We had extensive flooding in the village near the Nutfield Brook, but country wide matters were much worse with the Somerset Levels, the Thames breaking its banks and flooding Henley Staines, Datchet, etc., and 1000's of homes flooded. I was cut off for a few hours by floodwater in Leatherhead surrounding the building I was working in, the way out entailed a long hike and some paddling! In February a huge storm battered the South and the West Coast line was washed away at Dawlish where the track follows the spectacular Devon coastline. March was a much drier month and quite mild, as was April. May was a bit wetter, but daytime temperatures were climbing. June and July were the best summer months with consistently warm days, little rain and although not exceeding 30° C was ideal English weather, I managed a dip in the sea at Freshwater on the Isle of Wight, first time in the UK for 30 years. August was much wetter especially between 24th and 25th when we had over 40 mm of rain; seemingly Hurricane Bertha that ravaged the USA was to blame. The month was not cold but average temperatures were 3 degrees colder than for July. September was a real Indian Summer with bright mild days very little rain, in fact up to 18th of the month we only had 2.6 mm and 16 dry days in a row, mean average temperature 15.6 degrees which is as good as many June's or July's, it was also the driest on record since 1910. October saw a change in fortune, with only 6 dry days, and a very rainy period between the 7th and the 15th (total rain for the month was 132 mm), but despite this it was not a cold month, there were no frosts. November was yet another wet month (143 mm) but generally mild, the first frost was on 5th and there were another couple of frosts in the last week, but the lowest temperature I recorded was 0.1° C. Now we come to December, this reversed the very wet trend, and we had only 51.3 mm rain, it was not a very cold month with the lowest temperature of -1.8° C, and a total of 11 frosts, including some clear frosty days around Christmas, but no snow at all in 2014.

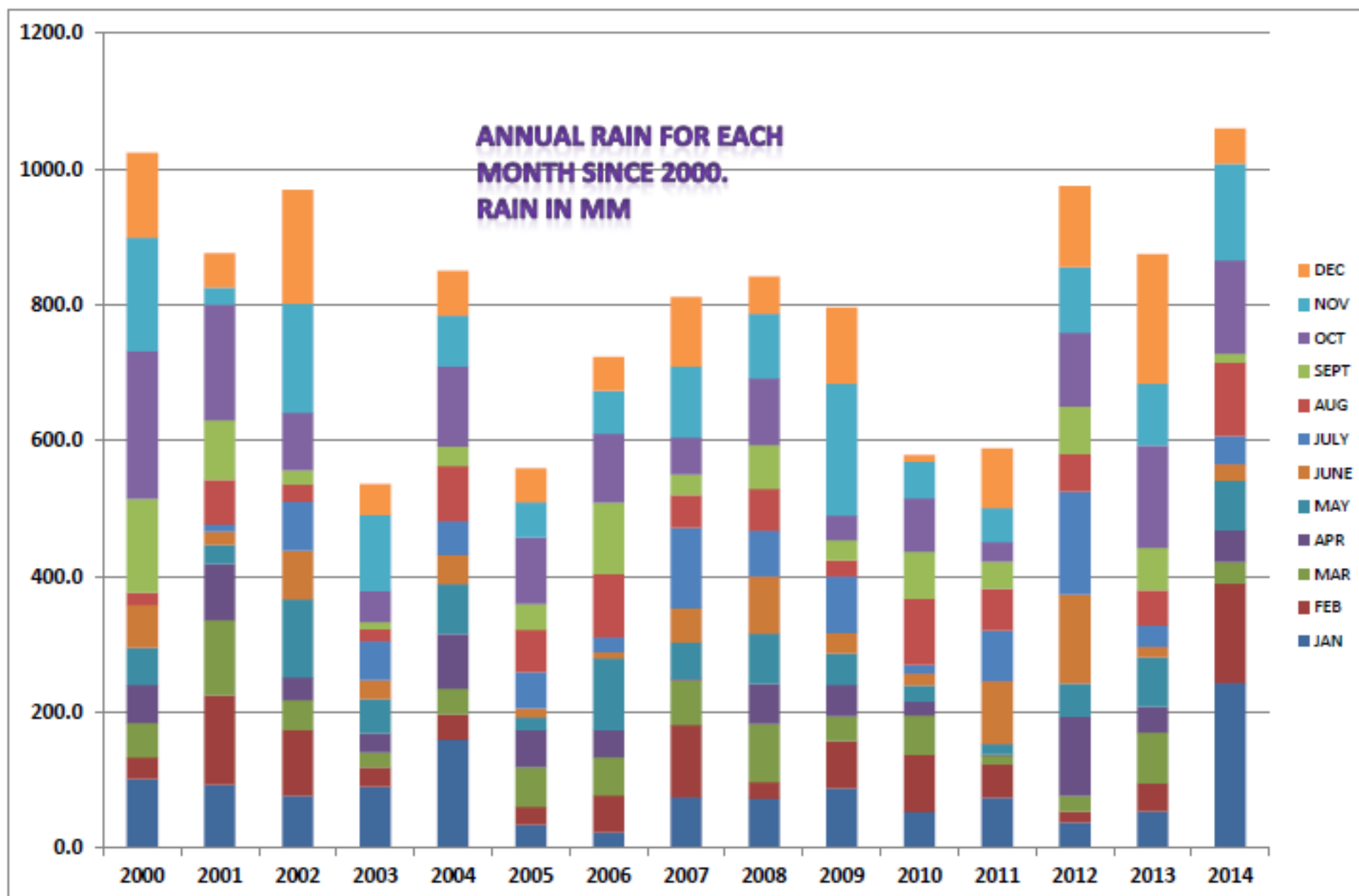
Overall it was a topsy-turvy year with rainfall varying by close to a factor of 2:1, it was also the warmest year recorded by the Hadley Central England Temperature Dataset which has records dating back to 1659 and covers a roughly triangular area from Bristol to London and Lancashire at an average of 9.9° C. However from my recorded data I have a mean average of 11.1° C, so perhaps the South East is the Riviera of the UK! If 2015 continues as it started it may well be another mild year. The attached graph shows how the rainfall has varied over the last 3 years together with the max/min temperatures for 2014. There will be additional data on the Link Website in colour for those interested. One final point, having moved from South Nutfield to Nutfield I have noticed that the temperature in the morning going to Holborn's for the paper is between 1° and 1.5° C lower in the Village that it is up on the ridge, this reflects on the slightly higher minimum temperatures I record here rather than when I lived in Dairy Cottage.

David Cullen

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TEMPERATURE
DEG
C
RAIN
MM





WINTER RAINFALL FROM 2000

RAINFALL in mm

