

**Flash flood history Southeast and coast**

Hydrometric area	Rivers	Tributaries	Towns and Cities
40	Cray Darent Medway Stour Rother	Eden, Teise, Beult, Bourne Gt Stour, Little Stour Dudwell	
41	Cuckmere Ouse Adur Rother Lavant Ems	Berern Stream, Uck, Shell Brook  Arun, Kird, Lod	
42	Meon, Hamble Itchen Test Lymington	Arle Dever, Anton, Wallop Brook, Blackwater	
101	Median Yar		

**Date and sources**

**Sept 1271  
Doe (2016)  
(Hamilton  
1848-49)**

**20 May 1739  
Derby  
Mercury 8  
Aug 1877**

**Rainfall**

**Description**

<Canterbury>: A violent rain fell suddenly on Canterbury so that the greater part of the city was suddenly inundated and there was such swelling of the water that the crypt of the church and the cloisters of the monastery were filled with water'. 'Trees and hedges were overthrown whereby to proceed was not possible either to men or horses and many were imperilled by the force of waters flowing in the streets and in the houses of citizens'.

<Cobham>, Surrey: The greatest storm of thunder rain and hail ever known with hail larger than the biggest marbles. Incredible damage done.

**3 Jun 1747**  
**Gentlemans**  
**Mag**

**12 Jun 1748**  
**Gentlemans**  
**Mag**

**10 Jun 1750**  
**Ipswich Jour**  
**16 Jun**

**11 Jul 1750**  
**The Scots**  
**Magazine 6**

**Jul**

**2 Jul 1760**  
**Derby**  
**Mercury 10**

**Apr 1877**  
**(Chronology),**  
**Salisbury and**  
**Winchester**  
**journal 12 Jul**  
**1902 (from**  
**Annual**  
**register)**

**19 Aug 1763**  
**CBHE (from**  
**Annual**  
**Register Vol 6**  
**1763**  
**Chronicle 95-**

<Midhurst> Sussex: In a thunderstorm a bridge on the <<Arun>> was carried away. Water was several feet deep in the church and churchyard. Sheep were drowned and two men were killed by lightning.

<Addington Place> Surrey: A thunderstorm with hail affected Surrey (and <Chelmsford> Essex and Warwick). Hail was 7 inches in circumference. Great damage was done to windows and gardens.

<Sittingbourne>, Kent: Thunderstorm killed 17 sheep in one place and several others.

<Gosport>, Hants: Thunderstorm with large hail (of uncommon sizes and forms).

<Fordingbridge> and <Ringwood>, <Hants>: There was a thunderstorm with violent rain. The <<River Avon>> in less than an hour rose 10 to 12 feet perpendicular and caused great damage. At <Redbrook> a wagon with 5 horses were with great difficulty saved from being swept away and the water rose so high as to run through a farmhouse at least a foot in depth and in a house opposite was half way between the floor and the ceiling. Great quantities of hay were swept away from the meadows at <Fordingbridge> as were a great number of hogs along with their sties. At <Gourley> 18 hogs were carried off at once but saved by a neighbour. The river <<Avon>> was swelled to such a height, that it is probable the mills thereon would have been born down by the violence of the stream, which would have carried all before it, had not the diligence of the people who attended all night, opening flood-gates and hatches, abated its force by dispersing its waters.

<Kent>: About twelve at noon the sky, the darkness was occasioned by a black sulphureous cloud, which arose in the north west, and, attended with hail, rain, wind, and lightening, drove furiously over London, and then discharged itself chiefly on the county of Kent, where in rapidity and fierceness the storm resembled a tornado, so as to kill fowl, and even sheep, and, in near twenty parishes, destroy all hopes of any kind of crop, to the amount of near 50,000 After the storm was over, the hail and rain water, with which the earth was covered, formed a kind of jelly, so slippery, that it was difficult to walk over them. The hail stones measured from two

inches to ten inches in circumference, and some taken up on the 4th of September, still measured four inches and a half round. Of the stones, some were globular, others like flat pieces of ice frozen together; heaps and ridges of them lay by the hedges three and four feet deep.

**24 Jun 1764**  
**Manchester**  
**mercury 3 Jul**

At <Herdford bridge> on the road to Basingstoke in Hampshire, there was the largest land flood ever known from the bursting of a cloud. The water rose 6 inches in an instant and carried off great quantities of hay from the meadows. (Thunderstorms noted elsewhere in south).

**14 Jul 1766**  
**Gentleman's**  
**Mag.**

At <Bramfield> near <Halesworth> in Sussex the water rose 9 feet perpendicular and persons lost their lives. Tracts of land were overflowed. The church steeple was damaged by lightning. A storm at Kettering in Northamptonshire a farmer was killed by lightning and others injured.

**15 Oct 1768**  
**Gentleman's**  
**Mag.**

<Brenchley>, <Horsmonden> (Kent): In a sudden inundation in less than an hour the waters in several rivulets rose to the second floor of some houses.

**5 Sep 1772**  
**Oxford Jour**  
**12 Sep**

<Margate>: Severe thunderstorm but no reference to damage by lightning or floods

**9 Nov 1773**  
**Hampshire**  
**chronicle 15**  
**Nov**

<Southampton>: Continual rains for the past week were followed by a thunderstorm lasting nearly 3 quarters of an hour. Many acres of land in the county are under water. Roads are impassable in Sussex and Surrey. At <Kintburn> (Sussex) a farmer lost 15 sheep washed away by the floods.  
<Lewes>: the swell in the river was greater than ever remembered and a boat rowed around the Bear Inn in the <Cliffe>.

**15 May 1777**  
**Hampshire**  
**Chronicle 19**  
**May**

<Newport>, Isle of Wight: A thunderstorm with heavy rain continued for 2 and a half hours. The rain being so very sudden and violent caused so great a flood that the rivers overflowed a great way on to fields and carried off implements of husbandry and swept away the land. There was no significant lightning damage.

**13 Sep 1781**  
**Kentish Gaz**  
**19 Sep**

<East Kent>: A thunderstorm with heavy rain caused great damage to hop plantations. In a small cottage <Rowling>, the water rose five feet in a few minutes but no lives were lost. At <Gilton> town a barn was swept away.

**13 Jul 1782**

<Gravesend>: A waterspout flooded the roads in an extraordinary manner; water rose in a few minutes to the

**Kentish Gaz**  
**17 Jul/20 Jul**

bellies of houses in a brook that is generally dry at this season. Thunder was heard but the rain was so thick that lightning was not seen!

**7 Jun 1784**  
**Scots Mag X**  
**Jun**

(partly obscured) Many small birds were killed by the rain. Several cows and 15 pigs were washed away. Cellars shops and warehouses in the neighbourhood were flooded. Flooding was noted in <Clerkenwell>, <Grays Inn>. Several sheep were found dead at <Dulwich> and <Sydenham>.

<Sherborne>, Hants: An extraordinary storm of hail preceded by drops of rain as broad as half crowns, followed by round hail then pieces of ice some of which measured more than 3 inches in girth. These stones coming from the NW broke all the windows and garden glasses on that side but mainly in farmhouses where vegetables and hops have been badly damaged. The storm was no more than a mile in breadth. In the centre of the storm there arose a sudden flood; the soil is swept out of the corn fields into the lanes where it tore up the very rocks and the meadows filled with mud and gravel. The hollow land towards <Alton> was so torn that rocks weighing 2 hundredweight were removed. The hail lay 3 feet deep in places and remained all day.

**7 Jul 1784**  
**Salisbury**  
**Journal 12 Jul**

<Basingstoke> to <Hook>: A thunderstorm with heavy rain caused flooding of houses. Great injury was done to the grain and many cattle killed. The storm was also very violent at <Farnham>.

**9 Jul 1787**  
**Northants**  
**Mercury 28**  
**Jul**

<Seaford>, Sussex: A thunderstorm was accompanied by heavy rain and hail the size of large peas which shattered many windows. Several acres of low ground are under water and corn laid flat.

**27 Nov 1790**  
**Hampshire**  
**Chronicle 29**  
**Nov**

<Lewes>, Isle of Wight: Repeated thunderstorms occurred over several days. The rain burst with uncommon fury over <Newchurch>. On the third of these storms, the hail was of large size and dashed windows to atoms and shattered skylights. The hailstones measured from 1 and a half to 2 inches long and as big as a large walnut. Some were as large as a large hen's egg. No lives were lost but two people were injured by lightning, trees were struck and gardens destroyed. No flooding was reported.

**13 Apr 1791**  
**Reading**  
**Mercury 23**  
**Apr**

<Chatham>, <Gravesend>: A thunderstorm with heavy rain and hail lasted for an hour and a half and extended over two miles. At <Headcorn> in Kent the river <<River Beult>> rose three and a half feet perpendicular in two hours. The storm was also violent at <Egerton>

**7 Aug 1793**  
**Hampshire**

Widespread thunderstorms noted at Brighton, Harwich, Ipswich, Hereford, Brecon,

<Feversham>: Four people were killed by lightning.

<London>: A man was killed by lightning in Oxford Street

<Portsmouth>: the wall of the Jewish cemetery was knocked down and other considerable damage.

**Chronicle 19  
Aug**

mostly referring to lightning strikes on buildings. Strong winds were associated

<Margate>: Sails were blown off a windmill, wagons were blown over and the wind was followed by a thunderstorm.

<Newport. Isle of Wight>: A man was killed by lightning.

**6 Jul 1794  
Hampshire  
chronicle 14  
Jul**

<Winchester>: A thunderstorm with an uncommon fall of rain continued for some hours and quite flooded the neighbourhood. House chimneys were damaged by lightning. (At <Binham> in Berkshire a church was destroyed and the bells entirely melted)

**16 Jul 1797  
Bath  
Chronicle 27  
Jul**

<Lewes>: Thunderstorm with heavy rain caused the meadows to be flooded as they generally are after 24 hours of winter rainfall. The oldest inhabitants do not remember a storm so heavy and so much rain in 3 hours.

**1 May 1815  
Cumberland  
Pacquet 16  
May Leicester  
jour 12 May**

<Addington>: Rain with large hailstones as big as marbles fell at Addington in Surrey and water poured down from Addington Hills, carrying away cattle pigs and poultry. A farmhouse was flooded to a depth of four feet in 10 minutes. The Cricketers Pub was flooded and casks floated two miles distant. Addington church wall was washed down but no lives were lost. The villages for miles around were completely inundated. A woman who had clung with a child to a beam in a barn was nearly drowned.

<Sevenoaks>: A hailstorm also occurred at Sevenoaks with hail as large as walnuts and in hollows formed masses of ice 4 feet thick. A blind woman was drowned in the cellar of a house. The storm was also reported in Kidderminster and Oxford.

<Riddlesdown>: A similar storm was experienced at Riddlesdown when the turnpike road between Godstone and Croydon was laid under water for a considerable distance

**16 Jan 1817  
Kentish  
Weekly Post  
24 Jan**

<Maidstone>: There was a violent thunderstorm with hail, also at <Gravesend> and <Northfleet>. During the last month such a quantity of water has come down the river to impede the tide and render the Thames at Gravesend partly fresh.

**21 Jun 1817  
Public Ledger  
and Daily  
Advertiser 27**

Excessive heat the week before rising to mid 80sF the hottest for 9 years.

<Salisbury>: In a thunderstorm following a period of intense heat at Salisbury every street was flooded and water ran through many houses. At <Langford> 12 sheep were killed by lightning.

<Southampton>: A fire at Redbridge nearly destroyed a warehouse but was put out by heavy rain.

<Wareham>: A man on a horse was struck by lightning and both were killed.

**Jun London  
courier 26**

**Jun, Leics  
Chronicle 5**

**Jul**

**16 Nov 1821  
Morning Post**

**24 Nov  
Hampshire  
chronicle 26**

**Nov**

**17 May 1822  
Bells Weekly  
Messenger 27**

**May**

**1 May 1827  
Stamford  
mercury 18  
May**

**4 May 1828  
Kentish  
Weekly Post 6  
May**

**16 Jul 1828  
Public Ledger  
17 Jul**

<Maidstone>: A violent thunderstorm which lasted upwards of an hour caused the <<Medway>> to overflow. At <Battle bridge> the cellars of most of the houses have been filled before the inhabitants had risen from their beds. In the road leading from <Bagnigge Wells> to the turnpike, the sewer overflowed and carried away everything with it; gardens were washed away and furniture carried off. A child was washed into the sewer and drowned.

<Uckfield>, Sussex: Rain mingled with hailstones fell and the <<Ouse>> overflowed and laid the road at Uckfield bridge under water. 'The flood poured along our streets'. The storm was local said only to embrace 6 square miles.

<Caterham>, <Coulsden>, <Warlingham>, Surrey: A two-hour thunderstorm with hail caused much damage to agriculture. Some of the best soil of the sides of the hills has been washed away by the flood.

<Canterbury>: The city was visited by a violent thunderstorm with rain and hail. The hail was dissolved in less than 15 minutes but drains were blocked and streets and houses were flooded to a considerable depth. At Northgate the road was impassable and several houses flooded, similarly in Orange Street and several other parts. Budding fruit trees are much damaged. About an hour before the storm a waterspout was observed towards the southeast and Harbledown.

<Canterbury>: In a thunderstorm with hail the gratings were blocked and flooding of houses occurred at Northgate to a considerable depth as were many other parts of the suburbs.

**9 Sep 1828**

**London  
courier 19**

**Sep**

**14 Jul 1829**

**Kentish  
weekly Jour  
21 Jul**

At <Staplehurst> in Kent the hail was of such violence that scarcely a pane of glass was left in the village. The storms with large hail also affected <Canterbury>, Chelmsford and at Lincoln where house doors were broken open alarming inmates by its suddenness.

<Canterbury>: A thunderstorm continued for nearly an hour and inflicted great damage on the wheat crop. The thermometer rose by 13 degrees on the approach of the storm which was accompanied by very strong winds. The streets were inundated in every direction. The ditch which runs along Broad Street was swollen so that gardens were middle deep and wheelbarrows and cart bodies were set afloat. Northgate was flooded and into several houses. The storm began at <Appledore> and extended to <Ramsgate>. The wheat was laid flat by the hail both by its largeness and its quantity; **it averaged one to one and a half inches in length and some two and a half inches.**

<Dover>: The rain penetrated almost every house in the town. The water was four feet deep in the market place. In the Kings Arms Library 46 panes of glass were broken and at the Ship Hotel 106 panes, plus many other houses affected. A field of barley and a field of wheat on the west wide of Dover Castle Hill were swept away by the torrent. A crop of turnips at The Priory was washed from the hills into the valley. The water forced its way into the back of the Priory house and gained outlet through the parlour windows. It also collected to a considerable height at Buckland. There was lightning damage to a church spire and to a windmill and sheep were killed in various places.

<Hythe>: **One hailstone was 2 and a half inches long and measured 5 inches in circumference;** between 3 and 4 hundred panes of glass were broken.

**24 Jul 1829**

**Bells Weekly  
Messenger 3**

**Aug**

**24 May 1831**

**Salisbury and  
Winchester**

**Jour 31 may**

**16 Aug 1831**

Thunderstorms were widespread. At <Brookland> near Rye almost every pane of glass in the church was broken from hailstones of immense size and almost every cottage was partially unroofed. Great damage was done by storms in France and Switzerland.

<Southampton>: A thunderstorm lasting about two hours was accompanied by hail or rather pieces of ice which did considerable damage to the skylights. The streets and houses were completely flooded. Buildings were damaged by lightning.

<Tunbridge Wells>: Thunderstorms occurred on 2 successive days. But the second was the more serious and

**Brighton Gaz**  
**25 Aug**

lasted about an hour. There was an extraordinary flow of water from the different hills and the lower part of The Wells was quite flooded. At the foot of Mount Sion several cellars were nearly filled with water and also at Chapel Bridge and Bath Passage. The storm was also reported at Tonbridge where there was lightning damage but no flooding was reported.

**14 Jun 1834**  
**Windsor and**  
**Eton Express**  
**21 Jun**

<Brighton>: **The hailstones were as big as chestnuts or walnuts** breaking thousands of panes of glass. In some houses 50 to 60 panes are broken and on one house on the Parade facing the sea every pane is broken.

**9 May 1838**  
**Leamington**  
**Spa Courier**

<Dover>: The thunderstorm was accompanied for a time by hailstones of enormous dimensions, some of which were **an inch and a half in circumference**. The hail lasted only 6 to 8 minutes but caused great damage to greenhouses and exposed glass

**12 May**  
**15 Jun 1839**  
**Dover**  
**Telegraph 22**  
**Jun**

<Dover>: With heavy rain and hail the streets were completely flooded. The storm was general with reports of lightning effects at Canterbury, Ripple, Ramsgate and at Sheerness.

**5 May 1841**  
**Oxford**  
**chronicle 8**  
**May**

<Andover>: A thunderstorm continued at intervals through the day. The town and its immediate environment escaped serious consequences but the storm raged with great violence west of the town. In many places **hailstones 6 inches in circumference** fell and the roads were almost impassable, being flooded. Buildings were struck and set alight. At <Hippenscombe>, growing crops of corn on some of the lands was entirely swept away and walls of buildings washed down by the flood. At <Tidworth> a garden and conservatory were greatly damaged by hailstones and large pieces of ice.

**15 Jul 1841**  
**Bells Weekly**  
**Messenger 25**  
**Jul**

<Wateringbury>: the thunderstorm lasted 4 to 5 hours. Barns were destroyed by lightning and fire and also at <Dartford> and <Brenchley> (Kent) and several in Essex. Animals were killed by lightning. The Worcester area was also affected by thunderstorms and hail fell at some places for an hour and a half. There was no reference to flooding.

**9 Aug 1843**  
**Yorkshire**

<Maidstone>: Several barns and haystacks were struck and set alight and various buildings were struck. Thunderstorms were widespread in East Anglia and elsewhere but with general rain from 9 in the morning till 10 at night.



**Gazette**  
**19Aug, Webb**  
**et al 2001**

The storm with hail and lightning damage was also reported at <Rochester>, <Oakham>, <Boston>, <Melton Mowbray>.

<Rochester>: Almost every house has sustained injury from flood, hail and lightning. Inhabitants spent most of the night bailing out their houses and cellars. The streets looked like so many rivers. The road was washed up at the bottom of Star Hill Rochester and Hammond Hill Chatham. **Much glass was broken by pieces of ice 1 ½ inches in length and some pieces as large as a hen's eggs were picked up.**

**18 Jun 1844**  
**Berks**  
**Chronicle 22**  
**Jun**

Hants: the storm extended from <Mattingley Green> to <Over Hook> and <Odiham> and for some miles beyond <Farnham>. The hail lay in drifts 12 to 18 inches deep and many houses were flooded. A cow was killed by lightning.

**12 Jul 1844**  
**Bristol**  
**Mercury 20**  
**Jul**

<Deal>: Torrents of rain lasted nearly half an hour and several cellars and low apartments were flooded from the depth and rapidity of the water and the streets were rendered impassable. The storm did not extend much beyond two miles.

**8 Sep 1844**  
**The Globe 10**  
**Sep**

<Brighton>: the thunderstorm lasted two hours and a half. The rain completely deluged the streets.

<Canterbury>: A storm the violence of which has not been exceeded for many years passes over eastern Kent. The streets of the city were completely overflowed.

**12 Sep 1844**  
**Northern Star**  
**14 Sep**

<Petersfield> (Hampshire): A severe thunderstorm with **hail 3 to 5 inches in circumference** fell in the area of Sheet and Lisa. Although the air was warm and sultry cartloads were still lying the following morning. Greenhouse roofs were smashed. Various other parts of Hampshire and Kent were also affected including Winchester and Canterbury.

**5 Aug 1846**  
**Morning**  
**Chronicle 6**  
**Aug**

<Chatham><Rochester>: After the extreme event on 1 August, another storm struck London but particularly Chatham. The heavy rainfall lasted above an hour. The principal street in Chatham was flooded owing to the water flowing down from the hills. The storm was most severe between the hills that range along the Medway towards Maidstone. Rochester suffered more damage from hail which did not occur in Chatham.

<Chichester>: A farmer was struck dead by lightning with a bill hook on his shoulder.

**6 Sep 1846**  
**Morning**

<West Kent>: A thunderstorm occurred between 4 and 5 pm and the rain soon inundated the lowlands passing over the roads with the force of a mountain torrent. Between <Shooter's Hill> and <Welling> the water was

**Advertiser 8  
Sep**

deep and rapid and rose in many places to 18 inches above the carriageway. In <Welling> the storm did not last more than 20 minutes but during that time great damage was done to the roofs and foundations of cottages. The storm was felt at <Eltham>, <Woolwich>, <Wickham> and <Bexley> but there was only a slight shower at Dartford. The Shooter's Hill road had the appearance of a sea beach after being ploughed by the waves or the bed of a river.

**14 May 1848  
Salisbury and  
Winchester  
Jour. 20 May**

<Andover>: A thunderstorm with rain and hail continued for upwards of an hour and quickly inundated the streets. The houses in the lower part of the town were flooded. The sitting rooms of The Star, Catherine Wheel and Bush Inns with the adjoining houses were covered with water to a considerable depth.

**14 Jul 1848  
Kentish  
mercury 22  
Jul**

<Canterbury>: The rain fell in torrents and the hail was very large. There was little damage beyond the flooding of cellars.

The storm was reported at <Wickham>, <Lyminge>, <Faversham>, <Sittingbourne>, <Ashford>, <New Romney>, <Dover>, <Maidstone> <Malling> etc with no reference to flooding but damage to buildings. At <Lenham> a man was struck dead by lightning.

**30 May 1850  
Hampshire  
Chronicle 1  
Jun**

<Winchester>: The city and surrounding area were hit by a violent hailstorm. The rush of water through the West Gate into the High Street to the lower extremity of the town was most impetuous with an accumulation of large stones left on the road. Cellars and ground floors were flooded in some houses to a depth of 16 or 18 inches.

**16 Jul 1850  
Bradford  
Observer 25  
Jul London  
Evg standard  
18 Jul**

In parallel with severe flash floods in Lancashire, storm effects were noted elsewhere in the country, mostly from lightning. At <Tilehurst> (W of Reading) an agricultural labourer was struck dead in a field.

<Brighton>: Temperatures were very high from 15 to 17<sup>th</sup> reaching 80F in the shade. The storm lasted about an hour. Within a few minutes from the start, the water came from three sources (into Pool Valley which is in the lowest part of Brighton), East Street, the Steyne and Marine Parade. Creak's baths, the Wellington Inn and adjoining houses were flooded. The contents of cellars and shops immediately floated into the street. Shops at the back of York Hotel were also flooded. In rushing from the Steyne the water flooded a number of further shops. The streets looked like canals and boats were used in the lower part of the town. The deluge penetrated roofs and flooded apartments.

**19 Jun 1852**

A girl was killed by lightning at Worksop. The storm also was 'destructive in Scotland'

<Petworth> (N of <Chichester>): A thunderstorm lasted nearly 2 hours and rain and hail poured down in

**Hampshire  
Telegraph 26**

**Jun**

**13 Jul 1852**

**Southern**

**Times 17 Jul**

**Morning Post**

**20 Jul**

**16 Jul 1852**

**Hampshire**

**Chronicle 24**

**Jul**

**19 May 1853**

**Globe 4 Jun**

**9 Jul 1854**

**Sussex**

**Advertiser 11**

**Jul**

**23 Aug 1855**

**London Evg**

**Standard 25**

**Aug, Sussex**

**Advertiser 28**

**Aug , W Kent**

torrents. All low land was flooded and could be seen on every field and road. Corn is beaten down and fruit damaged. A bullock was killed by lightning.

<Andover>: A thunderstorm with rain and hail flooded many of the streets rendering them impassable for pedestrians and many houses in the lower part of town were inundated. The hailstones were of unusual size and greatly injured growing crops of corn. At Andover road Station the water was upwards of two feet in depth and for a time prevented the passage of trains.

<Cowes>, Isle of Wight: The thunderstorm occurred between 5 and 6 o'clock in the evening and was accompanied by hail and large pieces of ice, averaging 3 ½ to 4 ½ inches in circumference and one was measured at 5 ½ inches. All the skylights are smashed and the houses exposed to the north suffered most. In Lord de Greys, Belmore House, Rosetta Villa, Grove House and the West Cliff cottages the dining and drawing room cottages were knocked in. Fruit and trees are much damaged.

<Southampton>: The storm was preceded by excessive heat for a fortnight. The storm started at 7.40 pm and with an hour ¾ inch of rain fell. Cold harbour was flooded for nearly an hour. The storm passed off in a northeasterly direction after midnight. Much damage was done to glass by large icy hailstones which also affected <Winchester> and <Twyford>.

<Weald>: A sudden storm burst over the Weald – around <Cuckfield>, <Hayward's Heath>, <Wivelsfield>, indeed the whole line of rail on the other side of <Clayton Hill> was instantly flooded. A house was struck and damaged by lightning.

<Cuckfield>: There was a very heavy tempest accompanied by hail and rain in torrents which flooded the streets and tore up the road.

<Portsmouth>: A thunderstorm burst over the city at night and lasted 3 hours. The storm quickly choked the drains and flooded the main roads and streets for a mile out of Portsmouth. Thousands of pounds of goods are ruined.

<Chatham>: The storm affected this area and neighbouring areas of Kent. Very heavy rain fell for nearly one hour. The lower part of the main street of Chatham was about a foot and a half deep and many of the houses on the front of the street had their cellars flooded. The military parade ground at Chatham Barracks is torn up

**Guardian 1  
Sep.**

and wagon loads of gravel washed away.

<Gravesend>: The heavy **fall of hail broke most windows of houses facing west** and also St John's Church and the Town Hall.

<Newport>, IOW: The storm lasted from 21.30 to 01.00 with hail **and lumps of ice 3 inches long**. There is hardly a house in Newburn that has not been injured by the storm. Houses in the lower part of town were flooded including the Bugle Hotel as well as many shops.

<Eastthothly>: The storm was accompanied by hailstones as large as marbles doing much damage to vineries and greenhouses.

<Uckfield>: The thunderstorm kept up for more than 2 hours. The hailstones were of extraordinary size, one weighed over a quarter of a pound. Great damage has been done to greenhouses and windows here and in adjoining parishes. A big house at <Buxted> had 2000 panes broken.

<Petworth>: the streets were one sheet of water.

[The storm was also reported in London and E Anglia].

**29 May 1856  
London Daily  
News 31 May**

<Brighton>: A thunderstorm hit the western part of Sussex extending to Brighton and <Lewes>.

<Littlehampton>. <Worthing> and <Lewes> were worst hit. The railway line between Lewes and <Kaymer> was inundated. A cow was killed by lightning.

<Hastings> to <Portsmouth>: The storm was also reported there. A parsonage house at <Chailey> near a stream was flooded to a depth of several feet. A man was killed by lightning at <Heathfield>.

**15 Jul 1856  
Sussex  
Advertiser 22  
Jul Norfolk  
News 16 Jul**

<Brighton>: The storm was accompanied by **hailstones the size of walnuts**. The streets were flooded in an incredibly short time. Many cellars had water flowing in especially in the east side of the town. Streets were flooded in the foot of Church Street, North Street and numerous streets leading from the Race Hill to the Cliff. The hail did much damage but without strong winds the damage was not as great as in June 1854 when thousands of window panes were broken; still some thousands of greenhouse glass panes were broken.

'Fortunately we have not had a repetition of the catastrophe a few years since, known as the Pool Valley flood'.

[No date given]. Thunderstorms were also reported at Battle, <Burwash>, <Eastbourne>, <Hartfield>, and

<Lewes> mainly reporting lightning effects but no flooding.

Heavy rain fell in the western part of Sussex. At the west end of <Worthing> thousands of panes of glass were smashed by **hail sometimes measuring 6 inches**. Great damage was caused to crops.

**20 Jun 1857**  
**W Surrey**  
**Times 27 Jun**

<Guildford>: Rain and hail completely deluged the streets. Hailstones, some of immense size, covered the streets like snow. The water filled the sewers and caused them to overflow and flood the town in one rapid torrent. In some streets it entered the cellars and lower rooms and carried everything before it. The storm lasted about an hour.

**13 Aug 1857**  
**Lloyds weekly**  
**16 Aug, West**  
**Sussex**  
**Gazette 20**  
**Aug**

<Southampton>: A thunderstorm raged with violence for nearly 2 hours and flooded the roadways and streets. A house was damaged by lightning.

**22 Oct 1857**  
**Exeter flying**  
**Post:**  
**Manchester**  
**courier 31 Oct**

<Petworth>: the rain was mingled with hail and the whole of the streets were flooded and many houses had furniture floating around in wild confusion. Hailstones as large as pigeon's eggs came pelting down

**31 Aug 1857**  
**Sussex**  
**Agricultural**  
**Express 5 Sep**  
**19 May 1859**  
**Brighton Gaz**  
**26 May**

In Kent and Surrey the rain was nearly as severe as on the north of the city (See East Anglia). The lower part of <Lewisham> was entirely under water. Similar scenes occurred at <Greenwich>.

<Ashford>: Gardens were stripped and hop poles demolished by the heavy rain and hail; fruit was scattered and windows broken and apartments flooded. The water ran down the steep hills in torrents

<Brighton>: The thunderstorm was said to be unequalled since 'the flood' of 1850 when there was severe damage in the Pool Valley. Works have since been done there to enable the water to escape. The rain tore up the roads and converted the streets to torrents. A waterspout was clearly seen over the Ditchling Hills. The storm lasted over an hour and the watercourses and drains are choked up with silt and basements of many houses in the town were flooded. In the London Road from the Hare and Hounds to St Peter's Place the water overflowed and also in Lewes Road and Richmond Place where kitchens were flooded. The Albion Hotel was flooded to a depth of 4 feet in its kitchens.

**31 May 1859**  
**Hampshire**  
**Telegraph 4**

<Alton>, Hants: First the rain poured down in torrents then hail or rather large masses of ice which did much damage to growing crops especially the hops. At <East Tisted>, the ice was as large as walnuts and great damage was done to glass. At Alton the drains and watercourses could not carry off the water so that houses in

**Jun, Sussex  
Agr Express 4  
Jun  
5 Jun 1859  
Windsor and  
Eton Press 11  
Jun  
2 Jul 1859  
Hampshire  
chronicle 9  
Jul, Lloyds  
Weekly  
Newspaper  
10 Jul  
28 Jul 1860  
Surrey  
Gazette 31 Jul  
  
4 Jun 1861  
Isle of Wight  
Observer 8  
Jun  
27 Jun 1861  
Sussex Ag  
Express 29  
Jun,  
Southeastern  
Gazette 2 Jul**

the centre of town were flooded.

<Tunbridge Wells>: In a few minutes some of the streets were flooded and water flowed into houses. At Grove Hill a sewer burst. A pig was killed by lightning and some houses were struck.

<Richmond>: The main drains were quickly blocked with the heavy rain and the principal thoroughfare of the town presented the appearance of a canal. Water made inroad into the houses and formed a stream through many others.

<Portsmouth>, <Portsea> and <Gosport>: A thunderstorm with rain and hail gave 2.16 inches in less than an hour. The streets were flooded and also some houses near the beach.

<Lymington> Hants: Hail fell as wedges of ice of every shape and size and exceeded 3 inches round. Some were picked up as large as oranges or as small as pullets eggs. They broke windows in the northwest in every direction for miles, in one house 160 panes were broken.

<Lewes>: The thunderstorm was said to be the most severe for 30 years. Hail and rain descended in torrents and the streets became watercourses. Houses were flooded in the lower part of the town. Plants were damaged in gardens but there was little report of broken glass. The storm was confined to the immediate vicinity of Lewes.

<Ventnor>: There was limited thunder but the downfall was such as no one could remember at this time of year. It rained and hailed for upwards of half an hour so that many houses were flooded both from above and below. The hail consisted of pieces of ice many of them one inch in circumference. In the low part of High Street the water and ice stood 2 feet deep and as the drains became blocked the water found its way in streams into houses. The hail storm did not extend very far as there was no sign of hail at St Lawrence and Appuldercombe.

<Lewes>: A very heavy hailstorm occurred in the town; the hailstones were very large and water flowed down the streets with considerable force and did damage especially in the neighbourhood of the church. The storm did not extend more than 3 miles.

<Brighton>: The thunderstorm was the worst since 17 July 1850 when Pool Valley was flooded. The hailstones were the size of walnuts. The Northern Drain burst and water rushed into the back yard of the Richmond Arms and flooded the cellars. An adjoining house was flooded to a depth of several feet. A grocer at the corner of Trafalgar Street, and nearly all the houses on the south side of the same street as far as Pelham Square, were flooded to a depth of several feet. Every area in Waterloo Street North was flooded with furniture afloat. From Albion Hill the water streamed down Albion Street completely flooding Nos. 36, 37, 38 and 39. The Level was

**5 Jul 1862 The Scotsman 8 Jul**

**20 Jun 1863 Chatham News 27 Jun**

**5 Apr 1866 Dover Express 13 Apr**

**10 Sep 1867 BR**

**5 Aug 1869 Thanet Advertiser 14 Aug**

**10 Aug 1870 Chatham News 13 Aug**

several feet in water supplied from Southover Street. At the north end the water overflowed the bank and extended to the boundary walls of the Park Crescent. The water rushed down Race Hill Road, Wellington Villas and Islingword Road and poured into Park Crescent; in the Lewes Road houses from 2 to 10 were flooded. The whole of the London road from Preston to the hare and Hounds was a sheet of water; the cellars of the Gloucester Hotel were under 3 feet of water. Almost every ground kitchen in the Grand Parade was flooded. St Peter's Church stood out from the flood like an island. Water rushed from an overflowing drain from the North, Market and East Streets damaging great quantities of goods. Hailstones broke much glass at a nursery and lightning struck and set building alight. At Preston and Patcham no rain fell.

<Sevenoaks>: A thunderstorm was accompanied by heavy rain and very large hailstones and lasted about an hour. Several houses were flooded and some of the streets were impassable.

<Deal>: The rain was mingled with hailstones of a large size but with a hurricane wind it whirled the descending rain in an extraordinary manner. The storm last half an hour and the main street was completely flooded. The fronts of houses in Sandown Terrace and houses at the north end of beach Street have scarcely a pane left. Several buildings are partially unroofed.

<Chatham>: In a short time, the steep streets were converted into perfect streams and at the bottom of these declivities, cellars were flooded.

<Deal>: The thunderstorm was accompanied by severe showers of rain and hail and several of the low-lying parts of the town were flooded and considerable damage done.

<Guernsey>:Upwards of 1.5" of rain fell in two hours.

<Sheerness>: In a thunderstorm commencing at 21.30 and lasting more than an hour the town was completely flooded; the drains and sewers were overcharged and quite unable to carry off the flow. Innumerable cellars and lower apartments of houses were flooded to a depth in some instances of 3 to 4 feet. Nearly all the houses in the dockyard were flooded.

<Chatham>: Though the storm was brief the streets were converted into rivers. Damage was done at the lower end of Chatham from torrents pouring down Chatham Hill, Cage Lane etc. A great number of houses at the east end of town were flooded including Enon Place, Magpie Hall Lane. Little Crown Inn on High Street was flooded to 2 feet of water in its cellar. In Fullalove's Alley, Fair Row and other places were flooded. Cellars were also flooded in High Street <Brompton>.

<p><b>14 Jun 1871</b> <b>BR</b></p>	<p>Brighton 0.52" in 12 m</p>	<p>&lt;Brighton&gt;: In the south and south-east of England, the fall on this day was the product of a thunderstorm, beginning about 10 p.m., lasting about a couple of hours, and being most severe in the neighbourhood of Brighton.</p>
<p><b>18 Jun 1872</b> <b>Surrey</b> <b>Gazette 2 Jul</b></p>	<p></p>	<p>&lt;Buxted&gt;, N of &lt;Uckfield&gt;: Severe storms were widely reported over much of England but the only reference to the southeast was for a measurement of hailstones – the size of a blackbird's egg, a little flattened but most were irregular lumps of ice. An example measured 3 inches in circumference being 7/16 of an inch in thickness. Fifteen weighed one ounce.</p>
<p><b>20 Jun 1872</b> <b>BR</b></p>	<p>Eastry (Kent) 1.00" in 30 m</p>	
<p><b>24 Jul 1872</b> <b>Birmingham</b> <b>Daily Post 26</b> <b>Jul,</b> <b>Hampshire</b> <b>Telegraph 27</b> <b>Jul</b></p>	<p>Portsmouth: &gt;1.5 ins in about 3 hours Newport IOW: 2" in less than 2 hours.</p>	<p>&lt;Ryde&gt;, Isle of Wight: A thunderstorm caused much damage to thoroughfares and property. A long length of a massive wall was washed down by the flood and the basements of houses in all parts of the town have been flooded. The Esplanade was flooded.</p> <p>&lt;Cowes&gt;: Drains were choked or burst and houses and shops were inundated.</p> <p>&lt;Newport&gt;: the roads were like running streams and the water invaded a great number of homes and cellars.</p> <p>&lt;Portsmouth&gt;: Several streets were flooded and engines were employed in clearing up the water. At Point cellars and underground kitchens in the lowest part of the area were flooded. Between Southsea Pier and the Hotel the flood was 12 inches deep. At &lt;Portsea&gt; the cellars of many shops in Queen Street were flooded and other streets within the walls were flooded. Ordnance Row near the police station was flooded, sometimes over a foot in depth. At &lt;Landport&gt; nearly all the roads were impassable; Lion Gate Road was a perfect pond. A store at the corner of Fountain Street nearest Commercial Road had a cellar filled to pavement level causing much loss. Shops in Commercial Road were also flooded. Fratton, Clermont Terrace had underground kitchens flooded with furniture floating about in rooms. Some houses were damaged both by lightning and flood.</p> <p>Gosport: The drains became choked and in some of the houses in low lying neighbourhoods the water flowed through from front to back with cellars filled. 'There has not been such a downpour of rain in the parish since the celebration of Peace Day on 26 May 1856'.</p> <p>&lt;Fareham&gt;: Ground floors of houses and cellars were flooded.</p> <p>&lt;Havant&gt; and &lt;Emsworth&gt;: the rain in torrents quickly flooded the roads rendering some of them impassable. Emsworth Station buildings were destroyed by fire after lightning struck.</p> <p>&lt;Petersfield&gt;: Two horses were struck dead and seven men accompanying them were injured.</p> <p>Storms were widely reported in North Hampshire, West berks and Wilts.</p>



<Ventnor> (IoW): The rainfall of this day, 2.75" is the greatest in the last 32 years; it fell between 3 and 7 a.m., during a thunderstorm. but possibly rainfall was greater at West Thorney (Sussex), where the gauge which only held 2 ½" was allowed to run over.

**30 Jul 1872** Alresford 1.01" in 30 m

**BR**

**1 Aug 1872**

**Chichester**

**Express 6 Aug**

<Liss> and <Liphook>: the thunderstorm lasted two hours. A 22 acre lake burst its banks and carried away Blackwater bridge and a half a mile below, the Redwater bridge. Many of the sandy roads were injured by the fallen banks with hedges and trees carried away. In one case a 4 ½ foot deep hole was excavated and a horse fell into it. It was reported that a large body of water came like a wave, 4 to 5 feet in height. It swelled the <<River Rother>> below to overflow. The storm raged from east to west extending about 2 miles.

**7 Aug 1872**

**Salisbury and**

**Winchester**

**Journal 10**

**Aug**

**22 Jul 1873**

**Whitstable**

**Times 26 Jul**

**25 May 1874**

**Surrey**

**Advertiser 30**

**May**

**11 Jul 1874**

**BR**

Tenterden (Kent) 0.50" in 15 m and 1.03" in 105 m  
Hartley, Cranbrook (Kent)  
0.90" in 35 m

**23 Sep 1874**

**BR**

Dymchurch (Kent) 0.62" in 20 m

**28 May 1875**

**Hampshire**

<Andover>: Two heavy thunderstorms occurred, the second being the more severe. The lower part of the town quickly became inundated. Opposite the Star hotel the water was knee deep and the water was inches deep inside the hotel. The south side of Bridge Street also suffered considerably with many houses flooded. In Chantry Street the drains were insufficient to carry off the water, consequently Portland house and cottages adjacent suffered a severe influx.

<Margate>: the thunderstorm was accompanied by hailstones many of which were larger than marbles. The lower parts of the town were speedily flooded.

<Dorking>: In a thunderstorm the streets were quite river-like in their appearance. In West Street and South Street shops and cellars were flooded and some street drains were burst by the force of the torrent. Four bullocks were killed by lightning.

<Petersfield>: In a thunderstorm the basements and ground floors of many houses were flooded to a considerable depth and the streets were a continuous sheet of water. The road from Churcher's College to the

**telegraph 5**

**Jun**

**7 Aug 1875**

**London**

**Evening**

**Standard 9**

**Aug**

**12 Aug 1875**

**BR**

**22 Jun 1876**

**BR**

**20 Aug 1876**

**BR**

**11 Jun 1877**

**BR**

**21 Jun 1877**

**BR**

**4 Jul 1877 BR**

**8 Jun 1878**

**Sussex**

**Advertiser 11**

**Jun**

**29 Jun 1878**

**Salisbury and**

Harbledown (Canterbury)  
2.12" in 20 m

Hythe (Kent) 0.56" in 10 m

Brighton DR 1.99"

Woolston (Southampton)  
0.45" in 15 m

Tenterden (Kent) 1.15" in 2 h  
30 m  
Winchelsea (E Sussex) 1.69"  
in 3 h 30 m

Strathfield Turgiss (Hants)  
0.61" in 10 m

East Worldham (E Hants)  
1.22" in 2 h

Worthing 1.00" in 70 m

foot of Ramshill was covered to a depth of 2 feet. Neighbouring arable lands were denuded of wagon loads of surface soil. One bullock was killed by lightning.

<Beckenham>: High Street was like a river with 5 inches of water and cellars and low lying cottages were filled with muddy water. Three cows were killed by lightning.

<Chislehurst>: A man was killed by lightning.

<Maidstone>: Heavy rain was mingled with large hailstones, continuing for nearly an hour. The streets were soon impassable and cellars were flooded or swept clean through houses. In Stone Street near the Lower brewery, the water in the street was nearly waist high. Sand and gravel are lying in heaps all over the lower part of town.

<Brighton>: The greatest rainfall, ever recorded at Brighton; the greatest previously recorded was 1.81" on the 17th July, 1850 (the Pool Valley flood).

<East Worldham>: 1.22" fell in two hours but I believe that that amount actually fell in about half-an-hour; hailstones varied in size from a quarter to three-quarters of an inch in diameter.

<Shoreham>: The thunderstorm continued for 2 hours. Several of the highways were under water and impassable for some time. One house on the Lower Road was flooded to a depth of 2 feet.

<Worthing>: Rain fell for an hour and partially inundated some of the streets; Montague Street was under water for several hundred yards and the cellars of several houses were flooded.

<Wivelsfield>: The rain lasted an hour and many places were flooded. Such was the force of the rain that the country appeared as if a heavy roller had been drawn over the surface of the ground and almost beaten everything into the earth.

<Wilton> (near <Salisbury>): A deluge of rain and hail fell and the drains were soon inadequate to carry off the immense volume of water and houses in West and North Streets were quickly flooded. 'We have been informed

**Winchester  
Journal 6 Jul**

**22 Jul 1878**

**Sunderland**

**Daily Echo 23**

**Jul**

**24 Aug 1878**

**London**

**Evening**

**Standard 26**

**Aug**

**28 May 1879**

**BR**

**13 Jun 1879**

**BR**

**21 Aug 1879**

**Kent and**

**Sussex courier**

**22 aug**

**18 Jun 1880**

**Salisbury and**

**Winchester**

**Journal 19**

**Jun**

**24 Jun 1880**

**BR**

Southampton 2.35" in 2 h 40 m

Hythe (Kent) 1.53" in 2 h 30 m

Woldingfold (where?) 1.72" in 55 m

that an average rainfall of two months fell in about 3 hours'

<Southampton>: The thunderstorm flooded many houses and lightning struck the Wesleyan Church destroying one of its pinnacles and damaging the roof. Other places in the neighbourhood, <Itchen ferry>, <Bitterne> and <Westend> where there are somewhat steep hills have had great ruts cut in the roads a foot deep. The streets were flooded to a depth of several feet.

<Bournemouth>: Rain completely deluged the streets and flooded large numbers of residences and shops. The pleasure gardens through which the Bourne Brook runs were badly damaged by the flood.

<Tunbridge Wells>: A thunderstorm lasted an hour and a half.

<Sittingbourne>: At Emley nearby a man was killed by lightning and several houses were struck.

<Dover>: The rain fell so fast that the drainage was totally inadequate to carry the water away so that many houses in the Market Square and King Street were flooded. The hailstones were very large. The storm extended to villages in Kent Sussex and Surrey.

<Margate>: The storm lasted upwards of an hour and the rain was accompanied by hail and low lying localities were flooded to a depth of 2 feet.

<Winchester>: A thunderstorm passed over the city, the ordinary gutters were overflowed and houses in some cases were flooded in low lying areas. The storm was very local; two or three miles out no rain fell.

<Goudhurst> (Kent): A thunderstorm commenced about 3 pm and it was followed by the most violent hailstorm that has occurred during the past 16 years. The hailstones were round, and at first of moderate size, which gradually increased to that of small marbles, doing great damage to glass, and in the gardens ; yield of rain and hail 1.26".

<b>1 Jul 1880 Nottinghams hire guardian 2 Jul, Whitstable times 3 Jul</b>	Widespread thunderstorms but mainly with reported lightning effects on buildings.	<East Guildford> near <Rye>: Two men and a boy were killed by lightning. <Alton> <Hampshire>: The church spire was struck by lightning. <Tunbridge Wells>: Several houses were damaged by lightning. <Deal>: The streets presented the appearance of a torrent and the basement of Walmer Castle Hotel was flooded and many other houses.
<b>5 Jul 1881 BR</b>	Brighton 0.46" in 5 m	
<b>21 Aug 1881 BR</b>	St Lawrence (Kent) 0.55" in 25 m	
<b>15 Apr 1882 Portsmouth evening News</b>		<Deal>: The storm was limited to a small area. Rain and hail descended in torrents and the hail lay deep at the north end of the town. To the north and south end of the town basements of some of the houses were flooded.
<b>17 Apr 14 Sep 1882 Birmingham Mail 15 Sep</b>		<Brighton>: there was a heavy thunderstorm for several hours. A waterspout passed over the north-western part of the town and burst over the <Hove> district, inundating the basements of many houses in The Drive and one place a bakehouse to a depth of 2 feet. <West Cowes>: A man was killed by lightning.
<b>14 Jun 1883 BR</b>	Ashford (Kent) 2.65" in 90 m	<Ashford> (Westwell): A violent storm burst over here at 0.55 p.m. ; at 2.25 p.m., when it had ceased, the quantity in the gauge was 2.65"; some damage was done to roads, fields and gardens, but the storm did not extend more than three-quarters of a mile. <Benenden>(Kent): thunderstorm with more than 1.50" of rain; the hop gardens were beaten down flat, and could not be worked for a long time.
<b>29 Jun 1884 Graphic 5 Jul</b>		<Jersey>: A hailstorm continued for nearly an hour breaking through skylights like bullets; many were as large as an ordinary bullet. The glasshouses in St Heliers' were riddled and the rain which followed flooded many cellars
<b>24/25 Jul 1884 Mid Sussex Times 29 Jul</b>		<Eastbourne>: Many of the low lying streets were flooded and near Devonshire Park it would have been easy to have rowed small boats. <Twyford><West Hoathly>:Rain and hail the size of small marbles fell. the sotrm lasted 5 hours and caused much damage to surrounding crops. Much glass was also broken. Drifts of hailstones 1 ½ feet in depth were found.
<b>27 Jul 1884 BR 17 May 1885</b>	Reculver (Kent) 0.70" in 15 m	<Dover>: Terrific thunderstorm with a deluge of rain and large hail stones, which lay an inch and a half deep

<b>BR</b>		long after the storm had ceased ; many sheep killed
<b>5 Jul 1885 BR</b>	Emsworth (Hants) 1.36" in 50 m Mayfield (Portsmouth) 1.34" in 1 h Hailsham (E Sussex) 1.00" in 1 h	
<b>9 Aug 1886 BR</b>	Lewes (E Sussex) 0.87" in 40 m	
<b>17 Jul 1887 BR</b>	Canterbury 1.11" in 65 m	
<b>25 Jun 1888 Aberdeen free Press 26 Jun</b>	Liphook (E Hants) 0.84" in 31 m	<Emsworth>: Rain fell in floods and the roads were speedily rendered impassable and great damage is reported from outlying districts. <Chichester>: A man was killed by lightning.
<b>26 Jun 1888 BR</b>	Maresfield (E Sussex) 1.19" in 75 m	
<b>1 Aug 1888 Express and Echo 2 Aug</b>	Maidstone 1.50" in 3 h	<Kent>: Crops have been entirely washed away in West Kent and channels cut in the roads 5 feet deep. <Erith>: A railway embankment gave way and threw a train off the rails though no one was seriously injured. <North Weald>: The water flooded several cottages and some were up to their knees in water. Water butts were washed downstream and a bridge was damaged. The rivulets and brooks already swollen high with months of rain were converted into rushing torrents of water washing crops out of the ground and leaving the ground bare. Hops were seriously damaged. Essex Herald 4 Aug gives a detailed account of the sufferers.
<b>11 Sep 1888 BR</b>	Walmer (Kent) 1.08" in 45 m	<Walmer> (Kent):. Between 1.45 and 2.30 p.m. 1.08" of rain fell, flooding <Deal> so that skiffs rowed up High Street. The storm finished with hail, which quite covered the ground, and was accompanied by distant thunder.
<b>26 Nov 1888 BR</b>	Hythe (Kent) 0.86" in 30 m	
<b>6 May 1889 BR</b>	Compton (W Sussex) 0.70" in 12 ½ m and 1.55" in 1 h	
<b>23 May 1889 Western Morning News 25 May, Kent and</b>	Preceding high temperatures reaching 83F	<Headcorn> nr <Ashford>: the storm was almost tropical in violence deluging the land so that the river <<Beult>> rose to a great height and in less than 2 hours hundreds of acres were under water. Fruit trees and hot house glass suffered severely from the hail. Sheep and a horse were killed by lightning. (Ashford escaped without a drop of rain). <Fawkham>: The yard attached to the Rising Sun was deeply flooded and a little of 11 pigs and 2 sows had a

**Sussex  
courier 29  
May  
6 Jun 1889  
Southern  
Times 8 Jun**

narrow escape whilst neighbouring houses were also flooded. Fawkham Churchyard was flooded and walls were washed down.

**7 Jun 1889  
Dundee  
Courier 8 Jun,  
Sussex  
Agricultural  
Express 11  
Jun, London  
Evening  
Standard 11  
Jun,  
Canterbury  
Journal 15  
Jun, BR**

Kingsclere (Hants) 1.50" in 1 h

<Weymouth>: Between 11 and 12 in the evening rain fell in torrents and continued for several hours. In a short time gulleys were choked and some of the streets had the appearance of lakes. Many houses were flooded. In Hope Square the water was knee deep. Nearly the whole portion of the upper portion of The Park is under water in some places to a depth of 2 feet 9 inches. The inmates of houses in Derby Street, Hardwicke Street, Chelmsford Street, Walpole Street, Penny Street and Lennox Street were imprisoned in their houses with furniture floating about in their basements. The water flows into The Park from the Dorchester Road and residents are complaining of the inadequacy of the drains. Boats were engaged to carry people across The Park. IN Hardwicke Street some of the houses had 18 inches of water including many that have never been flooded before. At Westham the effects were very serious; a garden wall was washed down and the roads opposite the Rock Hotel and the railway arch were inundated to a great depth. Roads were scoured down to bare stones.

<Tunbridge Wells>: A downpour of rain and hail caused great damage to crops and property. A number of houses and the Public Hall were flooded. Flooding was particularly severe at the bottom of Mount Pleasant where the current of water rushing down the hill was joined by that flowing from Calverley Park. The water overflowed the basement of the Great Hall. The Bridge Tavern was flood and adjacent greengrocers and drapers where the water was several inches deep. At the Southeastern Railway station the water rose quickly and the tracks between the platforms became like a canal with a stream of turbid water. In the High Street there were several floods where the water flowed down from higher levels and at the Castle hotel the cellars were flooded. The water from the common rushed off into London Road and tore up the metalling. The water from the London Road and Front road collected at the corner of the Pantiles and flooded a large drapery. Glasshouses and house windows were widely shattered. In some of the houses lying off the Camden Road and in the neighbourhood of Dale Street the water was nearly up to the ceilings. The hailstones were nearly the size of walnuts and many of them weighed a full ounce. At Tunbridge there was rain but no damage was done . A correspondent notes very large hailstones measured at 4 ½ inches in circumference and nearly 2 ½ inches in length. The hailstorm which followed this initial fall lasted 13 minutes and the average size was something rather smaller than a walnut.

<Ramsgate>: Although the rain only lasted a short time some of the low lying places were considerably flooded. The basements of some shops in King Street were completely swamped and also some businesses in the vicinity of the market Place whilst at the foot of Denmark Street there was sufficient water to float a wherry. Some private houses also suffered.

**9 Jul 1889 BR**

<Dover>: Thunder with torrents of rain, 1.45"; streets flooded in a few minutes.

**5 Jul 1890 BR**

Ramsgate 1.67" in 2 h 25 m  
Daily rainfall  
Folkestone 2.58  
Dover 2.50  
Maidstone A 1.92  
Maidstone B 2.54  
Maidstone C 2.45  
Lynsted 2.94

This fall, was most remarkable in Kent, but it extended with less intensity over the whole of the S.E. of England, from Dover to the Isle of Wight, and from Eastbourne to the suburbs of London.

**17 Jul 1890  
Newcastle  
Evening  
chronicle 18  
Jul**

<Bournemouth>: In the course of an hour the pleasure gardens were completely submerged and had the appearance of a large lake.

<Wimbourne>: A man was killed by lightning.

**26 Jul 1891  
BR**

Iford (E sussex) 2.53" in 110 m

**27 Jul 1891  
BR**

Lewes 1.69" in 2 h  
Worthing 1.20" in 2 h  
Canterbury 1.60" in 2 h 30 m

**28 Jun 1892  
Yorkshire  
evening Post**

<Canterbury>: Great damage was done to crops in Kent and in Canterbury many houses were filled with water.

<Chatham>: Many streets and houses were flooded.

<Sevenoaks>: A child was killed by lightning.

<Rochester> and <Chatham>: The streets and several houses were flooded.

**29 Jun**

**23 Aug 1892  
Evesham  
Journal 27**

Dover: The temperature reached 80F in the shade.

<Canterbury>: A man was killed by lightning.

**Aug**

**21 Sep 1892  
BR**

Maidstone 0.61" in 7 m

**12 Jul 1893  
BR**

Emsworth (Hants) 0.78" in 25 m

**16 Jul 1893,  
BR (No info  
found in the**

Eastbourne 0.60" in 15 m and 1.26" in 1 h  
Daily rainfalls (90% on 16<sup>th</sup>)  
Eastbourne,  
Osborne Ho 2.22

<Eastbourne>: It rained heavily all the morning and when the people came out of church they found the streets impassable. In several of the principal streets the water was up to the knees, and was pouring into the basements of the houses. Ladies were carried by their gentlemen friends across the streets, and loafers

**papers)**

Wilmington Sq 1.97  
Ejector Works 1.95  
Gildridge Road 2.32  
ArundelRoad 2.85  
Trevella 2.75  
Cemetery 2.99  
Thunder not mentioned

frequenting the Gildridge corner, earned sixpences by conveying their better dressed fellows from place to place. The manholes in the roads were converted into fountains, the water spouting up from many different gratings, and helping to swell the torrent. The rain ceased at one o'clock and as the water cleared away, a thick coating of slush was left on roads and pavements. Terminus road, the chief business thoroughfare, presented the worst spectacle. All the afternoon the corporation workmen were cleansing the pavements and carting slush away in the mud carts, while the whole of the fire brigade was at work with three engines pumping water out of cellars. The state of affairs caused considerable excitement in the town, such extensive flooding never having been experienced before, although the corporation have just expended £25,000 on a new surface water drainage system. By this system the water is stored in a large tank, which is emptied at low water. It was high water at midday, and apparently the tank became full, and the water, being unable to escape, rushed back into the drains. It was no wonder that the drainage system broke down, because the Western and Northern parts of Eastbourne are high, the Central and Eastern very low, and the sewer outlet is to the east., therefore as the outlet was stopped by the tide, the sewers would become not merely full, but under pressure from the water entering in the higher parts of the town, and it would therefore necessarily fount-up from the gulleys in the lower parts.

**17 Apr 1894  
Surrey Comet**

**21 Apr**

**8 Sep 1894 BR** Eastbourne 0.90" in 50 m

**24 May 1895  
BR** Alton (Hants) 2.43" in 90 m

<Hampton>: Rain and hail fell copiously. Gutters were choked and basements flooded. Damage was done at the palace and at a church by lightning.

**3 Jun 1895 BR** Itchen Stoke (Hants) 0.78" in 1 h

**7 Sep 1895 BR** Eastbourne 0.98" in 65 m

**10 Jun 1896** Chichester 2.71" in 5 h

**BR**

<Alton>: A thunderstorm covering an area about 16 miles long by 3 miles wide. 2.43 in. of rain fell in less than an hour and-a half. The lower part of the town was flooded, and the road after the storm was a foot under water for about 250 yards.

Chichester three gauges 2.90, 2.71 and 2.30" city flooded. No newspaper reports were found.

Chichester.—Tremendous rainfall. On the evening of the 10th one of the heaviest falls of rain ever experienced in this city deluged the streets, and converted many of them into miniature rivers and lakes. Rain had fallen freely in the early morning, and as evening approached a thunderstorm broke over the city. It seemed as if Chichester was the centre of the electrical disturbance, for, the storm, or perhaps a succession of storms, hung



round the place for hours. Rain fell in tremendous quantities. Among other places the subway at the railway station became impassable; the Hornet, always a source of trouble in heavy rain, could be passed only by wading ankle deep, near Messrs. Newman's shop ; lower down, near the Four Chestnuts, there was another big flood, and Whyke and Bognor roads, near the Roundabout, were also partially submerged. A severe strain was put upon the sewers from the quantity of water finding its way into them from roofs and backyards, and in one or two instances the coverings of the manholes were lifted off. The rain ceased about 9 p.m. In various parts of the city the measurements of rain were different. Mr. States reports that the gauge in the Museum garden, South-street, registered 2.90"; while other gauges gave 2.71", and smaller quantities, down to 2.30". Luckily the sewers stood the strain well; the water disappeared surprisingly fast after the rain ceased.

**15 Jul 1896** Hailsham (E Sussex) 0.97" in 1 h  
**BR**

**10 Aug 1896** <Folkestone>: Heavy thunderstorm in the early morning, and considerable flooding by heavy rain  
**BR**

**24 Jun 1897** Effects of large hail mainly <South Weald>: <Pilgrim's Hatch><Bentley><Coxtie Green>: **The majority of the windows were broken by hail.**  
**Essex Herald** felt in Essex  
**29 Jun, BR** Swarraton (Hants) 1.42" in 50 m  
<Kelvedon common> also suffered severely and 500 panes were broken at <Brizes>.

**26 Jun 1897** Hastings 0.74" in 15 m  
**BR**

**5 Aug 1897** Otterbourne (Hants) 1.21" in 1 h  
**BR**

**25 Aug 1897** Hastings 0.80" in 30 m and 1.89" in 2 h  
**BR** <Hastings>: Heavy rain began at 11.30 a.m., with much thunder and continued till 0.30 p.m. During the hour 1.02" fell. At 0.30 p.m. hail began to fall and continued till 1 p.m., during which half hour 0.80" fell. The hail was of great size, the stones varying from 3/8" in diameter to more than 3/4". At 6 p.m. it was lying in places 6 inches deep,

**28 Jun 1899** Botley (Southampton) 0.70" in 15 m  
**Sheffield** Hartley Mauditt (Hants) 2.20" in 90 m  
**Daily**  
**Telegraph 30**  
**Jun, Isle of**

Cowes (IoW): Low lying streets were flooded and at the entrance to the pier the water stood 12 to 18 inches deep rendering the access impassable. Hail as large as marbles fell with the rain. 'It was a sight never witnessed before, by the present generation at least'. Down Park road quite a river tore its way carrying the surface of the road. At the junction near the entrance of Northwood Park the stream was joined by another coming from the carriage drive in the park. From there they tumbled along Terminus road and into the High Street. Another river

**Wight County**  
**Press 1 Jul, BR**

**29 Jun 1899**

Deal (Kent) 1.98" in 2 h

**BR**

**6 Jul 1899 BR**

Maidstone 1.07" in 45 m

**8 Jul 1899**

Waterspout was said to have occurred over Nackington Hill.

**Hull Daily**  
**Mail 10 Jul,**  
**Eastern daily**  
**Press 11 Jul,**  
**Canterbury**  
**Journal 15 Jul**

ran down Market Hill and another down Sun Hill. A considerable quantity of this escaped directly to the sea but in many places ponds accumulated in the streets flooding the pavements and then the adjacent houses. Shops in the High Street had some inches of water in them and businesses on the other side of the road had water in them from the back. The Parade was a lake. At East Cowes there was nothing more than a mere shower. <Wickham> (Hants): Extraordinary hail storm, lasting a few minutes and extending over but a small area. Old inhabitants never remember H stones of such a size; ten weighed, directly after the storm, averaged half-an-ounce each. Comparatively little damage was done to glass, many of the hail stones being flat and disc-like in shape. **Horses out in the storm were bruised about the head, and a man's hat was cut through.** The rattling of the hail on the roofs in the village was heard over half-a mile away.

Canterbury: Volumes of water came rushing down from the hilly area of Nackington causing damage by flooding in the city. Water poured down Old Dover Road and Wincheap. Some of the roads were converted into rivers causing basements to be filled with water and strawberry and other crops completely ruined. Water entered the Cattle Market where fortunately livestock had been removed before the storm burst. Hundreds of houses in various parts of the city were flooded. **Hailstones broke glass roofs and conservatories** were left in ruins. The **hailstones in many cases measured an inch and a quarter and weighed from half to ¾ ounce.** Another description gives hailstones an inch and a half in diameter smashing 5 large panes of 21 oz plate glass. Elsewhere thousands of panes were broken. Another account mentions irregular **pieces of ice one of which measured 1 ¼ inch long, ½ inch in thickness and ¾ inch in width.**

CJ reports at the Wincheap the water poured in from Cockington Lane and Hollow Lane. Wincheap from Finn's Grounds down to De Castro terrace and the whole length of the Old Dover road from St Lawrence Villas to the Riding Gate were under water. The basements of houses on both sides of Wincheap were quickly filled with water and all the houses from Thanington House to Decastro terrace where the kitchens had 5 to 6 feet of water in them. Water poured into the basement of Bridge House Tavern. Houses at the Riding Gate had several feet of water in their living rooms. Rushing past the Cattle Market Water gathered in St George's gate and still more poured down Lower Bridge Street where nearly all the houses on both sides were flooded. The flooding also extended to Broad Street and Northgate. The basements of residences in the upper part of Ethelbert Road were flooded to a depth of several feet. The railway between the Nunnery Fields and spring Lane Meadows were flooded the rails being completely under water whilst water also flooded the subway at the station. A

<b>23 Jul 1899 Taunton courier 26 Jul</b>	Portsmouth 3.25" in 2 h	<p>punt was rowed on the lower end of Old Dover road and in Rhodaus town.</p> <p>&lt;Portsmouth&gt;: In a short time the whole of the tramway service was suspended and the railway line near Fratton Station was 2 feet under water. The streets were flooded in front of the Town Hall and boys were seen to swim in the flood water.</p> <p>&lt;Southsea&gt;: Boats were used to convey passengers to and from the pier and many streets were impassable.</p>
<b>30 Aug 1899 BR</b>	Wickham (Hants) 0.75" in 30 m Bishops Waltham (Hants) 0.75" in 30 m	
<b>6 Sep 1899 Morning Post 7 Sep</b>		<p>&lt;Bournemouth&gt;: The storm lasted from 6 in the morning till about 10 and the Central Gardens were flooded to a depth of about a foot.</p>
<b>7 Sep 1899 BR</b>	Midhurst (W Sussex) 1.25" in 1 h Petworth (W Sussex) 2.56" in 100 m	
<b>3 Jul 1900 BR</b>	Horsmonden (Kent) 1.03" in 28 m	
<b>27 Jul 1900 Hastings and St Leonards Observer 28 Jul</b>		<p>&lt;Hastings&gt;: In a remarkable short space of time the main thoroughfares became like running rivers . The lower end of Havelock Road was partially submerged. A hailstorm was reported at nearby &lt;Battle&gt;</p>
<b>30 Jun/1 Jul 1901 Yarmouth independent</b>		<p>&lt;Portsmouth&gt;: Rain fell in torrents all Saturday night and much of Sunday and several parts of the town were flooded. Several buildings including the Post Office were struck by lightning.</p>
<b>6 Jul 27 Jul 1901 Western Times 29 Jul 1901, Shepton Mallet Journal 2 Aug</b>		<p>&lt;Porchester&gt;: The village of Porchester at the foot of Portsdown Hill narrowly escaped destruction. A waterspout on the hill sent a stream of water in some places as much as 6 feet deep rushing through the village streets. Cottages were flooded. The whole thing happened in a few minutes. Acres of the hillside were washed bare and fields of root crops destroyed. Hundreds of tons of stones and earth were washed from the hill and deposited on the road an in the cottages. Acres of hillside were washed bare.</p> <p>Bournemouth&gt;: In a few minutes the lower pleasure gardens were like a huge lake and water was several feet</p>

deep on low lying roads. Several business premises and cottages were flooded with furniture floating about in basements. The YMCA kitchen was flooded.

**28 Jul 1901** Clayton Rectory 1.3&” in 1 h  
**BR**  
**29 Jul 1901** Wadhurst (E Sussex) 3.25” in  
**BR** 55 m  
**26 Aug 1901** Hartley Wintney (Hants) 0.86”  
**BR** in 35 m  
**27 Aug 1901** Hastings 1.)”) in 2 h 15 m  
**BR**  
**30 Jun 1902** Eastbourne In a  
**Eastborne** thunderstorm of 1 hour 1.20”  
**Gazette 2 Jul** fell  
Ryde (IoW) 1.05” in 30 m  
**14 Aug 1902** Chichester 1.30” in 1 h  
**BR**  
**17 Aug 1902** Maidstone 1.90” in 75 m  
**BR**  
**10 Sep 1902** Farleigh 2.0” rain and at  
**Phillip Eden** Maidstone 1.5” presumably  
**Great British** storm totals  
**Weather** Maidstone 1.47” in 50 m  
**Disasters**  
**Sussex**  
**Agricultural**  
**Express 13**  
**Sep,**  
**Maidstone**  
**Journal 11**  
**Sep, BR**

<Eastbourne>: At the Sussex Stores Terminus Road at the corner of Bolton Road the basement was flooded to a depth of 2 feet. A business on Pevensey Road was flooded. At the lower end of Langney Road water was in the cellars of Windsor Tavern and there was 4 inches of water in the public bar. Various other properties in the neighbourhood were flooded.

<Maidstone> and <Tonbridge> were affected by a severe thunderstorm with hail up to 6 cm across destroying hop fields and orchards and glasshouses. One man hop-picking was killed by lightning at <Yalding> and several injured. Hailstones weighed at Yalding at 3 to a pound and in another case one weighed a quarter of a pound. Windows were broken at a hotel in <Wateringbury>. The downpour lasted more than 2 hours. Nearly every house built on a slope had its cellars flooded, the hilly streets having the appearance of mountain torrents. At St Faith Street it flowed over the pavements on both sides. Union Street was turned into a rushing river flooding cellars. Hailstones reached 4 feet deep and at Wateringbury three horses and carts had to be dug out of the hail.

<Mereworth>: Some hailstones picked up were several inches in length and oblong in shape.

<Tonbridge>: Many of the streets were quickly flooded the drains being quite incapable of carrying off the flow. Parts of High Street were flooded and several businesses were invaded including Manchester House, a drapery emporium. The River Medway became very much swollen and pleasure boats were practically swamped. A wall in Dry Hill Park was swept away. Water flowed down from St Mary’s Estate and flooded the yard at Tonbridge

**19 Jul 1903**

Linchmere (W Sussex) 1.20" in 35 m

**29 Jul 1903**

**Coventry**

**Evening**

**Telegraph 30**

**Jul**

**24 Aug 1903**

Emsworth 1.02" in 55 m

**BR**

**4 Sep 1903 BR**

Ulcombe (Near Maidstone) 1.00" in 45 m  
Sheppey 0.92" in 1 h  
Chichester 2.85" in 4 h  
Funtington 2.60" in 4 h

**11 Sep 1903**

**Western**

**gazette 11**

**Sep (Should**

**this be 4**

**Sep?)**

**27 Jul 1905**

Liss (E Hants) 0.94" in 20 m  
lghtham (Kent) 0.72" in 20 m

**BR**

**9 May 1906**

Burwash (E Sussex) 2.18" in 90 m  
Ticehurst 1.85" in 2 h 15 m

Police Station. [further material in MJ obscured]. Houses were flooded. Gordon road was like a river and many residents had to wade to reach their houses.

<Weybridge>: 96 mm fell in 90 minutes. Damage was done to roads and adjacent property by the heavy rush of water.

<Tonbridge>: Houses were flooded and the police station was invaded.

<Bexhill>,<Sidley>: the storm was accompanied by a terrific descent of hailstones which cut up vegetables in gardens. The water came down from the Sidley Road and Haddocks Hill road and flooded the road between Sidley railway Station and Pelham Hotel. The water made great ruts in the pathway two or three feet deep. The cellar of Pelham Hotel was flooded to a depth of 4 feet.

<Brighton>: The gutters were transformed into miniature torrents and roadways were in places flooded several feet deep as well as basements of many businesses and houses.

<Dover>: the hail storms were exceptionally severe and crops in the neighbourhood are badly beaten down.

<Portsmouth>: the drains in the low lying portions were quite inadequate and a number of houses were flooded. In one thoroughfare it rose to a depth of 2 feet and several streets were impassable. There was flooding at <Landport> and <Southsea>. Outside the Town Hall the water extended up to the steps approaching the building.

<Ticehurst> (E Sussex): in a heavy local downpour, 1.85 falling from 0.15 to about 2.30 p.m. At Wadhurst, 5 miles to the N.W., not a drop fell, and at Burwash, 2 ½ miles S., there was much hail though here there was

**23 Jun 1906**  
**Western**  
**Gazette 29**  
**Jun**

Severe storm and flood in  
Southwest

hardly any. The storm appears to have passed down the valley towards Etchingam, its edge just touching Hawkhurst.

<Brokenhurst>: A tremendous hailstorm occurred for just 10 minutes. **The stones were as large as walnuts and one measured 3 ¼ inch round.** Glasshouses were riddled and gardens much damaged.

<Andover>: Very soon the carrying capacity of the drains was overtaxed and the water came rushing down London Street, Winton Street and the High Street like a river and flood the lower part of the town. Houses and shops were flooded in high Street and Bridge Street to over a foot in depth of mud and sewage. The water rushed into the Star and White hart hotels and the Capital and Counties bank and most of the businesses and houses on the town side of Anton along Bridge Street.

<Seaford>: An army camp was wrecked with marquees blown down and hailstones as large as plums causing injuries to the men.

<Guildford>: A boy was killed by a tree falling on him. The subway at the station was flooded. Sandfield Terrace was littered with fallen trees. Pinnacles on St Saviour's Church were struck and damaged by lightning. Houses in the lower parts of the town were inundated and crops seriously damaged. Hailstones fell as large as marbles. The greatest damage was done by the hurricane winds but the rain also caused the streets to be flooded as the drains were incapable of carrying the flow whilst gratings were stopped up by rubbish. In some of the lower streets the water was a foot deep while cellars and some cases houses were flooded. Serious damage was done to Guildford Town Bridge, a steel structure erected after the stone and brick bridge was destroyed in a flood in 1900; the damage was done by a tree falling on it. In Loseley Park 30% of the trees were uprooted. In streets like Friary Street the water ran right through the ground floors. The narrow limits of the storm are remarkable; beyond Stoke Hill on the one hand and Shalford on the other there was no trace of damage.

<Woking>: The storm was severe for about half an hour. Some of the streets were flooded because the gulleys could not take the water but no damage was reported.

<Dover>: The storm lasted for 3 hours with thunder and lightning almost without intermission. Hail fell heavily smashing in window panes. In some cases furniture was afloat and rooms wrecked. The road leading to the Eastcliff Coastguard Station has been torn up to a depth of some feet. There was a river running through the valley from Broadleas farm where crops were washed out and some poultry drowned. The national Harbour Works at East Cliff were extensively flooded.

<Worthing>: Two young labourers were struck dead by lightning.

**2 Aug 1906**  
**Eastern**  
**evening News**  
**3 Aug, West**  
**surrey times 4**  
**Aug**

**25 May 1907**  
**London daily**  
**News 27 May,**  
**Evening Star**  
**27 May**  
**9 Jun 1907**  
**Daily**  
**Telegraph 11**  
**Jun, BR**  
**4 Jun 1908**

Tonbridge 0.75" in 35 m

BR notes: "We have been

<Dover>: A thunderstorm caused extensive flooding in many parts of the town causing the tramway service to

**The Scotsman**  
**5 Jun,**  
**Eastbourne**  
**Gazette 10**  
**Jun, BR**  
**13 Jul 1908**  
**BR**  
**11 Sep 1908**  
**Sheffield**  
**Independent**  
**12 Sep, Kent**  
**and Sussex**  
**Courier 18**  
**Sep,**  
**Canterbury**  
**Journal 19**  
**Sep, BR**

unable to obtain the record containing the fall of 3.42". which a newspaper reports at Tunbridge Wells on this afternoon ;

Herne bay (Kent) 2.65" in 3 h 30 m

The storm was very local with little rain at Faversham or surrounding villages. Canterbury 1.50" in 20 m

**24 Sep 1908**  
**BR**

Hastings 0.87" in 30 m

**4 Jul 1909 BR**

Bodiam (E sussex) 1.57" in 30 m

Tenterden (Kent) 1.25" in 30 m

**26 Jul 1909**  
**Coventry**  
**Evening**

be suspended as the water was running like rivers down the road. Tons of debris was swept from the hills.

<Tunbridge Wells>: Within a few minutes the streets had the appearance of a foam-covered river and a quantity of earth and stones were torn from the roadway. Rolling down Mountpleasant (a steep hill) the water flooded a number of shops at the bottom. BR notes: There was a fall of 3.42" in 45 minutes, said to have been observed at the Pantiles, Tunbridge Wells, during the great thunderstorm of June 4th.

<Canterbury>: There was a tremendous fall of hail and rain which in the course of half an hour flooded streets and houses. In some shops goods floated about in four feet of water whilst traffic on the main road to Ashford was completely stopped. Several houses were struck by lightning. In a hollow under the bridge near the Chatham and Dover Station the water rose to a height between 3 and 4 feet. Nine sheep were killed by lightning at Adisham. Hail beat down for about an hour with large pieces of ice falling here and there. It accumulated in drifts and was removed later in carts by council workmen. Flooding of houses occurred in low lying places but also at St George's Street and Wincheap. In many cases there was 2 to 3 feet of water in sculleries and kitchens from water forced up from the drains, having been choked. The water rushed from the station approach road Norman Road and Wincheap Street so that the water rose to a height of 4 feet at the dip under the railway bridge at Wincheap Green. Water poured into the Presbyterian Church. There was about 4 feet of water in the Railway hotel. Another river was formed at the junction of Northgate and Broad Streets and the Borough. The water rose some inches above the pavement. Victoria hotel was flooded and pumping took several hours to get rid of the water. The Jolly sailor was flooded and all the houses in that vicinity. A torrent passed down Old Dover Road and formed a pond at the Riding Gate flooding Hopton's pub floor as well as cellar. The green of Moat Lawn was ruined by the mud which rushed in from Rhodaus town. From the mound of the Dane John the water tore channels in the gravel paths. A miniature river was formed under the Corn Exchange by the water coming up through a drain. There was 6 inches of water through the basement of the Beaney Institute. The River <<Stour>> rose to an abnormal height and overflowed its banks in some parts.

<Dover>: In a thunderstorm accompanied by hail the streets were quickly flooded and covered with a white sheet of hailstones.

**Telegraph 27**

**Jul**

**25 Aug 1909**

**Nottingham  
evening Post**

**26 Aug**

**22 Sep 1909**

**Folkestone  
Express 25  
Sep**

**21 May 1910**

**Sunday Times**

**22 may,**

**Lichfield**

**Mercury 27**

**May**

**5 Jun 1910 BR**

Whatlington (E Sussex) 2.84"  
in 3 h

**9 Jun 1910 BR**

Wych Cross (E Sussex) 1.48"  
in 45 m

**12 Jun 1910  
BR**

Kingsclere (Hants) 1.77" in 30  
m

**10 May 1911  
BR**

Oakley (Hants) 0.85" in 30 m  
11<sup>th</sup> Mapledurwell (Hants)  
0.89" in 20 m

**26 May 1911  
BR**

Fareham (Hants) 3.00" in 1 h  
and 3.22" in 2 h  
Hartley Wintney (Hants) 1.75"  
in 2 h  
Barton Stacey (Hants) 1.70" in  
3 h

<Brighton>: A thunderstorm occurred between 11.00 and 12.00 and the basements of some houses have been flooded.

<Folkestone>: The pavement in front of Radnor Park church in Cheriton road was flooded and there was a sheet of water extending half way along the houses adjoining the church. Some manhole covers were lifted up. In many parts of the town basements were flooded and goods damaged. the hilly district in the lower part of the town was practically impassable. The bottom of Tontine Street was like a surging torrent and water several inches deep ran down the street; scarcely a shop in the street escaped flooding. In Seagate Street and South Street the water was deeper than anywhere else. Jenny Pope's Alley contained water to float a punt and shops were flooded. All the cellars and basements in that quarter were flooded, some to a depth of 2 feet. Dover Street, north Street and High Street resembled rushing rivers.

<Deal>: The thunderstorm lasted considerably over an hour with heavy rain and hail. Some of the roads in low lying parts of the town presented the appearance of rivers and the water was ankle deep. The hailstones were abnormally large.

<Ramsgate>: A man was killed by lightning.

<Sandwich>: The streets were flooded to a depth of 12 inches

<Kingsclere> (Hants). In half an hour 1. 77" of rain fell and flooded everything right through Tower Hill House.

<Oakley> (Hants: A violent thunderstorm with hailstones half an inch in diameter caused much damage



<b>13 Oct 1911 BR</b>	St Aubins (Jersey) 2.09" in 90 m and 3.00" in 3 h	
<b>10 Aug 1912 Western Chronicle 16 Aug</b>		<Southampton>: Torrential rain flooded the streets. The storm did much damage to growing crops.
<b>22 Aug 1912 BR</b>	Southwater (nr Horsham) 0.40" in 5 m	
<b>29 Apr 1913 Lincolnshire Chronicle 2 May</b>		<Bournemouth>: In the space of half an hour half an inch of rain fell. Part of the old Christchurch Road was flooded to a depth of nearly a foot and shops were inundated. The square and pleasure gardens were like a large lake.
<b>27 May 1913 Northampton Chronicle 28 May</b>	Herne Bay 0.79" in 15 minutes	<Herne Bay>: Some of the roads were flooded. <Crawley>: Some hailstones were as large as marbles and many irregular shaped pieces measured ¾ inch. Some glass was broken by the hailstones.
<b>10 Jul 1913 BR</b>	Brighton 1.45" in 2 h 14 m	
<b>14 Jul 1913</b>	Mayfield (Sussex) 2.36" in 3 h	
<b>15 Jul 1913 BR</b>	Tilehurst (Sussex) 2.00" in 1 h Hurst green (Sussex) 2.00" in 1 h	
<b>29 Aug 1913 The Scotsman 1 Sep</b>		<Folkestone>: A heavy thunderstorm caused great flooding in the lower parts of the town, the cellars and lower rooms of a number of houses being flooded. Much damage was also done in outside districts.
<b>18 Sep 1913 BR</b>	Alderney 2.00" in 45 m	
<b>14 Jun 1914 The Scotsman 15 Jun, Chichester Observer 17 Jun, BR</b>	Petersfield (Hants) 1.75" in 1 h	<Cowes><I of Wight>: Many houses were flooded. <Chichester>: A torrential downpour of rain gave way to hailstones. Some of the streets were soon flooded.
<b>12 Jul 1914</b>	Whitstable (Kent) 1.54" in 1 h	

**BR** Ospringe (Kent) 1.37" in 1 h  
Faversham 1.56" in 2 h 30 m

**22 Jul 1914**  
**BR** Margate 1.76" in 1 h  
Broadstairs (Kent) 1.65" in 1 h

**14 Aug 1914**  
**BR** Guernsey (St martins) 1.50" in  
15 m and 1.70 in 30 m

**25 Jun 1915**  
**BR** Hurstbourne Tarrant (Hants)  
1.32" in 30 m

**17 Aug 1915**  
**BR** Grayshott (Hants) 1.40" in 40  
m

**1 Sep 1915 BR** Hailsham (E sussex) 1.13" in  
75 m

**24 Sep 1915**  
**BR** Totland Bay (IoW) 2.00" in 2 h

**27 Apr 1916**  
**BR** Bicknor (Kent) 0.72" in 30 m

**29 May 1917**  
**BR** Liphook (Hants) 1.06" in 30 m  
H  
Upton grey (Hants) 1.24" in 1  
h

**28 Jun 1917**  
**BR** Ashley (Hants) 1.41" in 105m

**17 Jul 1918**  
**BR** Hadlow Down (E Sussex)  
0.98" in 20 m and 1.35" in 30  
m

**4 Jul 1920 BR** Liss (Hants) 1.50" in 90 m

**21 Sep 1920**  
**BR**

**12 Aug 1921**  
**BR** Secondary depressions  
moved across south-eastern  
England, and rain of a  
somewhat local nature, at  
places of considerable  
intensity, occurred. That of  
the 12th was most prominent  
in east Kent,

<Totland Bay>: this rainfall was part of a persistent fall and not a thunderstorm

<Margate>: Rain fell from 6 h to 23 h, the downpour between 9 h and 10 h being torrential, with the result that the lower parts of the town were flooded.

<Faversham>: Large hailstones fell.

<Deal>: In the country round about a good deal of damage was done to standing crops, whilst in Deal it was necessary to call out the fire brigade to pump out water from dwelling houses.

Crowborough (Sussex) 1.32"  
in 105 m  
Lyminge (Kent) 2.42" in 2 h 30  
m  
Great Mongeham (Deal)  
1.81" in 3 h

**25 May 1922**  
**BR**  
**(Gardeners'**  
**chronicle 3**  
**Jun)**

Towards the end of May  
England suffered from a heat-  
wave; temperatures of 88 F.  
being recorded on the 22nd.  
Tunbridge Wells 1.08 in 15 m  
Otham (nr Maidstone) 0.87 in  
10 m

<Tunbridge Wells>: A sharp thunderstorm occurred accompanied by hail. The observer reports that practically all the **hailstones, which varied from ¾ ins to 2 ins in diameter**, jumped out of the gauge, the actual fall being measured as 1.08 ins but estimated at 1.37 ins. during 15 minutes.

<Otham> (Kent): The storm was accompanied by severe hail.

<Tonbridge>: From the Gardeners' Chronicle, we learn that on May 25th 200 panes of glass were broken by hail at Coombe House Gardens, Croydon, and no less than 400 at Hall Place, Tonbridge.

**29 Jun 1922**  
**Portsmouth**  
**Evening News**  
**29 Jun**

<Portsmouth>: there was heavy rain and hail and the roads were quickly flooded and the roads were covered with quite large hailstones.

**9/10 Jul 1923**  
**Sheffield**  
**Daily**  
**Telegraph 11**  
**May, Sussex**  
**Agricultural**  
**Express 13**  
**Jul, BR**

Magham down farm: DR  
2.44"  
Daily rainfalls (no short  
period rainfalls)  
Rottingdean (Sussex) 4.55"  
Falmer (Sussex) 4.02"  
Newhaven (Sussex) 4.04"  
Haywards Heath 3.65"  
Seaford 3.41"  
Lewes 3.75"  
Balcombe 3.34"

<Seaford>: The town in Sussex had 103 mm rain; there was flooding there and in <Newhaven>.

<Hailsham>: The downpour of rain and hail flooded many houses. The <Dicker> district suffered rather badly – mainly from lightning fires and other damage..

**24 Aug 1923**  
**Sheffield**  
**Daily**  
**telegraph 25**  
**Aug**

<Ramsgate>: A heavy hailstorm was followed by a downpour of rain and High street and harbour Street resembled rushing torrents.

<Canterbury>: Parts of the city were flooded and there was 2 feet of water in some streets.

**14 May 1924**  
**Portsmouth**  
**evening News**

<Chichester>: A thunderstorm of great severity broke over the town accompanied by hail and was said to be the worst storm locally for many years. There was a great deal of broken glass at nurseries.

**14 May**

**31 May 1924  
BR**

Winchelsea (Sussex) 1.58" in  
50 m

Peasmarch (Sussex) 1.32" in  
75 m

**7 Sep 1924 BR**

Tunbridge Wells 0.58" in 15  
m

St Martins (Guernsey) 1.50"  
in 75 m

**25 Sep 1924**

**Hampshire**

**Telegraph 3**

**Oct**

**17 August**

Hellingly (Sussex) 1.21" in 50  
m

**1926 Hull**

Eastbourne 0.76" in 20 m

**Daily Mail 17**

**Aug, BR**

<Botley>: there was a loss by drowning of young pigs and fowls. The thunderstorm raged from 19.00 until after 22.00. In some places it rushed into cottages. On the railway the water was almost up to the fireboxes of the engines. The water rose rapidly at Botley flour Mills and also at Durley flour Mills causing much loss.

BR reports: in south-eastern England a severe thunderstorm occurred during the night of the 16th, damage by lightning and heavy rain being reported from stations along the south and south-east coasts from the Isle of Wight to Margate. Ramsgate suffered particularly, the damage there being estimated at several thousand pounds. Of the 0.76 inch which fell at Eastbourne in 20 minutes just after midnight, 0.33 inch fell in 5 minutes. At Hellingly, to the north of Hailsham, 0.73 inch out of the 1.21 inch fell in 12 minutes. At <Upper Hardres> and <Bossingham> in Kent, a great deal of damage to fruit and crops was occasioned by the heavy hail accompanied by a high wind.

<Ramsgate>: Great havoc was caused at Ramsgate where a landslide occurred. Roads were torn up, hotels flooded and trees blown down. In one hotel there was 7 feet 6 inches of water in the cellars.

<Canterbury>: There was extensive flooding of houses.

**31 Aug 1926**

Brighton 1.34" in 2 h

**BR**

**1 Jul 1927**

**Worthing**

**Herald 9 Jul**

**10 Jul 1927**

**BR**

Andover 0.82" in 20 m

Lyndhurst (Hants) 2.70" in 90  
m

Lyndhurst (2) 2.84" in 2 h

Hook (Hants) 1.50 in 75 m

S Farnborough (Hants) 1.21"

<Worthing>: Parts of Worthing and West Worthing in particular were seriously flooded by heavy rains. Opposite West Worthing station in Valencia road and along sections of the Broadway, Tarring Road the floods were several inches in depth and shopkeepers had to take steps to prevent the water entering their premises.

**11 Jul 1927**  
**Sevenoaks**  
**Chronicle 15**  
**Jul, BR**

in 90 m  
Southborough: 2.06" at Hand  
and Sceptre Hill  
Aldershot 1.18" in 20 m  
Langley (Kent) 1.10" in 50 m

<Tunbridge Wells>: Crops were uprooted and fruit trees stripped. Beans were cut off by heavy hailstones. Grass and corn were beaten to the ground. Flooding occurred at the foot of Silverdale Road into which water poured from Woodlands, Silverdale, Denbeigh, Dynevor, Cambrian and Holmwood roads. At the Grosvenor Recreation Grounds the tennis courts and bowling green were converted into a lake. Silverdale Road was covered by large hailstones over an inch in diameter and at no 153 a bakers shop was flooded 2 feet deep and at another baker's at 168 Silverdale the cellar was filled to the ceiling. A large culvert at the bottom of Woodlands Road was soon filled and the water flowed down the road. The local depot for BP petrol on North Farm Road was flooded to a depth of 1 foot and the High Brooms Brickyard and adjoining premises were inundated to a depth of 10 feet in places. On North Farm road near the Sewage farm a granite road was cut into gulleys by the torrent which rose 8 feet in a few minutes and overflowed on to the road. Holes about 4 feet deep were made in the road. People living in cottages at the bottom of the road carried their furniture upstairs. A number of men turning hay for drying were surprised to see the water approaching them and dashed to warn the occupants of the cottages but before reaching them were wading waist deep in the surging current. Two cows were killed by lightning in their stall.

<Southborough>: The hail was not so large as in the storm of May 1922. The water swept down each side of the main road and the parts most affected were Modest Corner and Holden Corner washing out a trench by The Beehive 2 feet deep. The Waterworks Pumping Station was surrounded by water 2 to 3 feet deep and it entered the engine room and flooded the engineer's house adjacent. Pentecost's Farm was also flooded, the weight of water breaking open the front door. Holden corner resembled a large lake; the water covered the brick base of the pillar box to a depth of about 1 foot; the houses themselves were too high to be flooded. The basement of Victoria Hall was covered to a depth of about 6 inches and also the Drill Hall at Speldhurst Road. Basements and cellars were also flooded in Springfield Road and were left with a thick deposit of mud.

<Loose> nr <Maidstone>: Chequers Inn and several houses were flooded and tram services were dislocated. A fair sized fish was caught in the main street.

**16 Sep 1927**  
**Gloucestershire**  
**Echo 17**  
**Sep**  
**1 Aug 1928**  
**BR**  
**27 Aug 1928**  
**BR**  
**4 Jun 1929**  
**Hampshire**

Thunderstorms followed a week of heavy rain in the south of England.

Ashurst Park 2.11 in 45 m

Bath 1.05 in 1 h

Hailstones larger than marbles fell in a storm which affected London and the

<Littlehampton>: There was a cloudburst 4 miles off the coast raising a tremendous cascade of water and sweeping waves with tremendous force against the shore. A deluge of rain followed a fierce hailstorm and

<b>Telegraph 7 Jun</b>	southeast.	streets were flooded to a depth of 6 inches. Basements were filled with water.
<b>20 Jul 1929 BR</b>	Brockenhurst (Hants) 1.38 in 85 m Boldre (Hants) 2.35" in 2 h Hartley Wintney (Hants) 2.15" in 2 h S. Farnborough (Hants) 1.06" in 40 m	<Canterbury>: Northgate street was converted into a river and houses were flooded.
<b>15 sep 1929 BR</b>	N Mundham (Sussex) 1.86" in 75 m	<North Mundham (near Chichester): The storm was an isolated one, being preceded by 23 days without rain and followed by 12 days without rain at that station.
<b>18 Sep 1929 Sussex Agricultural express 20 Sep</b>	[Should this be for 15 <sup>th</sup> ?]	<Lewes>: After a drought lasting nearly a month heavy rain fell locally. Streets in the lower part of the town were flooded. There was no rain at Newhaven or Southease.
<b>18 Jun 1930 BR</b>	Widespread thunderstorms from N Wales to SE England Highclere (Hants) 1.13" in 45 m	
<b>30 Aug 1930 BR</b>	Sittingbourne (Kent) 2.28" in 90 m	
<b>17 Oct 1930 BR</b>	Shanklin (IoW) 0.61" in 20 m	<Shanklin>: Flooding was general in the lower parts of the town. Water poured down the Hope Road leading to the sea in a torrent two or three feet deep and large stones were dislodged.
<b>14 Jun 1931 Portsmouth Evening News</b>		<Portsmouth>: Hailstones as large as gooseberries fell and in the Purbrook district conservatory windows were broken.
<b>15 Jun</b>		
<b>7 Jul 1931 Sheffield Independent</b>		<Canterbury>: More than an inch of rain (with hailstones) fell in less than half an hour. Five feet of water under the railway bridge held up traffic to Thanet. The Cathedral cloisters were flooded owing to a rush of water from the Cathedral roof. Basement cellars in the main street were flooded to a depth of 6 feet. In some thoroughfares houses were flooded to a depth of 2 feet. Buses stood in 3 feet of water in a garage.
<b>8 Jul</b>		
<b>5 Aug 1931 The Scotsman</b>	Petersfield: 54mm in 50 m Heathfield (Sussex) 0.93" in	<Southampton>: In a thunderstorm houses in some parts of the town were soon flooded in some to the extent that furniture was afloat. A tramcar was set alight by lightning.

<b>6 Aug, West Sussex Gazette 13 Aug, BR</b>	40 m	<Petersfield>: The main streets resembled swiftly running rivers. The station subway had 4 feet of water. Rushes road, Winchester Road, College street and other low lying parts of the town had houses and shops flooded. The observer notes: ' I had 2.15" in my gauge but an observer, who has a rain-gauge 1 ½ miles away, but 450 feet down the hill, measured 2.90 inches, which must have occurred about the same time. I think there was more rain about a mile to the north and north-east (just to the north of Cockshot Lane), as there was extensive flooding in a very shallow valley (a farmer had to wade up to his armpits), and much gravel carried away. There was also a great deal of hail then ; a farmer who was out in it says the hail was up to the horses' fetlocks.
<b>6 Aug 1931 BR</b>	Hastings 0.90 in 37 m	<Lodsworth>: An inch of rain fell in half an hour.
<b>13 Aug 1931 BR</b>	Eastbourne 0.67 in 15 m	
<b>26 Jul 1932 BR</b>	Kirdford (Sussex) 1.38" in 55 m	<Kirdford> (Sussex): During a second storm hailstones measuring ¾ inch diameter fell and ruined most of the apple and plum crops in an area about one mile wide.
<b>23 May 1933 Dundee Evening telegraph 24 May, Portsmouth evening News 24 May</b>		<Alton><Hampshire>: Torrential rain led to the flooding of many houses a public house and a hotel. Hailstones smashed panes of glass and a tree was struck down by lightning. The storm lasted less than an hour and 3 inches of rain fell in ¾ hour. Cars were held up by 18" of water on the road. At the Dukes Head, barrels of beer floated in the flooded cellar; Swan Hotel was also flooded.
<b>29 May 1933 Sussex Agricultural Express 2 Jun</b>	Thunderstorms In East Sussex with damage to services and buildings by lightning with extensive but unspecified flooding.	<Catsfield>: Hail some as large as marbles covered the roads to a depth of 2 inches. Leaves were stripped off trees and much damage done to garden produce.
<b>15 Jun 1933 BR</b>	Ovington (Hants) 2.37 in 1 h	<Burwash>: Hailstones were as large as hazel nuts.
<b>22 Jun 1933 Cornishman 22 Jun, western</b>	Bartley (nr Southampton) 2.40" in 90 m	<Dover>: Basements were flooded by heavy rain and hail. <Hawkinge>: The main <Canterbury> to <Folkstone>and other roads were flooded to a depth of 1 foot. The hail battered down crops. A waterspout was reported. Some houses were flooded, an occurrence previously unknown in Hawkinge.

**Morning  
news 23 Jun,  
BR**

**24 Jun 1933  
Eden (2008)**

Bexhill (Sussex) 1.42 in 75 m  
(25<sup>th</sup>)

<Dartford>: Wooden paving was forced up in a street and dozens of cellars were flooded.

<Silchester><Hampshire>: Short thunderstorms occurred with 64 mm in 25 minutes.

**21 Jul 1933  
BR**

East Malling (Kent) 1.35" in  
35 m

Maidstone 1.67" in 45 m  
Maidstone 2 2.25" in 45 m

**26 Sep 1933  
BR**

Fleet (Hants) DR at 3 stations  
5.16, 4.25 and 4.02" over a  
period from 15.00 to 19.00

**28 Jun 1934  
BR**

<Newport> (IoW): Two storms came up from the north-east and north-west simultaneously and broke over Newport, eventually passing south-east over <Sandown>, <Shanklin> and <Ventnor>. Flooding occurred over a wide area, and many houses were struck by lightning. The storm lasted from about 14.00 to 16.00 and produced 0.50 inch of rain in 20 minutes at Newport. The feature of the storm was the extraordinary hailstorm that accompanied it. The hailstones were as big as marbles and just as hard—for over an hour after the storm they were still on the ground. A partridge sitting on her nest was found killed by the hail.

**20 Sep 1933  
Yorkshire Evg  
Post 20 Sep  
Eden (2008)**

No hits for flood and thunder  
in BNA

<Bournemouth>: Almost a score of manholes were blown off in a thunderstorm and portions of roads were torn up. Shops and houses were flooded including the basement of a big shop in the centre of Bournemouth.

**26 Sep 1933**

No hits for flood and thunder  
in BNA

<Chippenham><Hampshire>: 109 mm fell in 2 hours and Fleet had 130 mm in 4 hours.

**13 Jul 1934  
BR**

Lymington (Hants) 0.90" in 30  
m

Sway (Hants) 2.07" in 2 h

**22 Jul 1934  
BR**

Balcombe (Sussex) 1.11" in 45  
m

**24 Jul 1934  
Shields Daily  
News 25 Jul**

<Folkestone>: Streets were converted into rivers and manhole covers forced off.



**25 Aug 1934**  
**Gloucestershire Echo 25 Aug**

<Deal>: Heavy rain lashed the streets and the wind blew with fury. The streets were soon flooded and the Middle Deal Road was impassable for pedestrians. High street and Broad Street were like rivers and shops were flooded. Many cellars were flooded. In the hailstorm which followed cyclists were forced off their machines. Birds were afterwards found dead in the streets. Water came in like a raging torrent into the Windsor Castle Hotel.

**1 Sep 1934**  
**The Scotsman 3 Sep**

<Folkestone>: the storm lasted several hours. Hundreds of shops and houses were flooded some to a depth of 7 feet and hail lay on the ground to a depth of 6 inches. The hailstones were as large as hazel nuts. Flooding was worst near the harbour where restaurants, shops and houses were flooded. Small planes at a flying festival had their wings riddled by the hailstones.

**29 May 1935**  
**Portsmouth evening News 30 May,**  
**Bognor Regis Observer 5 Jun**

Bognor regis 1.36"

<Bognor Regis>: Rain and hail fell heavily for about an hour. High Street and York road were flooded in places to a depth of six inches. Shops and houses were flooded in a very short space of time. BRO says High Street, York Street and London road were turned into a swiftly flowing stream a foot deep. The Theatre royal, Butlin's amusement shelters and houses and shops in London Road, Clarence road, High Street, West Street and on the sea front were flooded in some cases to 2 feet. A house on Felpham road which is a foot below street level had its front door burst open. Only the centre of the town seemed to be affected.

**10 Jun 1935**  
**Hull Daily Mail 10 Jun,**  
**Staffordshire Sentinel 10 Jun**

Lympne: 1.00" in 25 m ).39" in 6 m)  
Manston 0.20" in 5 m

<Deal>: Parts of the High Street were like a lake and boats were rowed in the streets in water 2 feet deep; houses and businesses were flooded. Hailstones as big as peas fell and fish were found when the water drained away. A sentry was struck and killed by lightning.

<Folkestone>: In less than 20 minutes the storm flooded the streets. Manhole covers were lifted off, basements were flooded to a depth of 5 feet, streets were like rivers and campers were washed out.

<Ramsgate>: A heavy thunderstorm lasted over half an hour. A deluge ran down the main streets and flooded shops hotels and apartment houses.

<Dartford>: Streets were flooded to a depth of 6 inches. Three cows were killed by lightning.

**25 Jun 1935**  
**BR**

A large part of southern Britain was affected by intense rain with thunder and lightning. BR reports intense rains qualifying for inclusion have been received from London, Berkshire, Hampshire, Oxford, Wiltshire, Gloucester, Hereford, Northampton, Leicester,

Rutland, Warwick,  
Monmouth and Carmarthen.  
Sherborne St John (Hants)  
1.54" in 1 h  
Highclere (Hants) 2.47 in 2h  
Hythe 2.48" mostly in 25 m  
Calshot 1.00 in 2 h 21 m

**1 Jul 1935 BR**

Winchester 2.23" in 2 h

**17 May 1936  
BR**

Rotherfield (Sussex) 1.08" in  
25 m  
West Hoathly (Sussex) 1.83"  
in 34 m  
Worth Priory (Sussex) 1.89 in  
40 m  
Forest row (Sussex) 2.10 in 1  
h

**19 Jun 1936  
Western Daily  
Press 20 Jun**

Horam (Sussex) 1.25" in 1 h

<Deal>: Considerable damage was done by a storm which lasted 2 hours. Lightning damaged houses on the sea front.

**20 Jun 1936  
BR**

S Farnborough 0.94" in 48 m

**21 Jun 1936  
BR**

Lenham (Kent) 1.00" in 25 m  
Teynham (Kent) 0.99" in 1 h

**29 Jun 1936  
BR**

West Hoathly 0.92 in 38 m

**10 Jul 1936  
Yorkshire  
Post 10 Jul**

<Eastbourne>: Houses were flooded by a thunderstorm with hail; scores of shops were flooded and two inches of rain were recorded.

**10 Jun 1937  
West Sussex  
Gazette 17  
Jun**

Following a heatwave  
torrential storms with high  
winds swept across the south  
from the Lizard to the  
Thames estuary

<Selsey>: The town claimed to have 2 inches of rain in a quarter of an hour with a total of over 3 inches. The storm was heralded by great clouds of whirling dust. No flooding was reported.

**30 Aug 1937**

Horsham (Sussex) 0.93" in 30  
m

<Alton><Hants>: Hailstones as large as marbles fell and water flowed through the High Street 12 inches deep

**The Scotsman**

**31 Aug**

**1 Jun 1938 BR**

**7 Jul 1938 BR**

Sellindge (Kent) 1.40" in 1 h

Alton (Hants) 0.75" in 20 m

**7 Aug 1938**

**BR,**

**Portsmouth  
evening News**

**8 Aug, Daily**

**Herald 8 Aug**

Chichester 2.50" in 45 m

Crawley (Hants) 1.95" in 90 m

flooding shops banks and business premises and two hotels.

<Orpington>: The deluge flooded roads.

Details of hailstorms at <Eastbourne> and <Bishops Waltham>, near Winchester, on the 7th are given in the Meteorological Magazine, 1938, p. 179, including a photograph of the accumulation of hailstones in the Square at Bishops Waltham.

<Crawley>: the storm was no accompanied by thunder in spite of the intensity.

<Southampton>: 1.00" was recorded between 14h. 30m. and 15h. 5m. The rain continued until 19h. when a total of 1.42 inches was measured. The storm took the direction Lymington, Lyndhurst, Totton, Southampton, Lee-on- Solent and Ryde, I.O.W.

<Apuldram> (near Chichester): A fall ranking as " very rare " occurred, measured 2.50" from 15.15 to 16.00 and notes that most of the 3.06" measured for the day fell by 16.30 Heavy thunder occurred and a squall of wind blew from south-west for the last part of the time. Only a moderate fall occurred 2 ½ miles to the south.

<Portsmouth>: In the great sotorm which passed over the south coast there was flooding in various places and traffic had to be diverted in several streets. The fire brigade was called to pump out basements. Under the railway bridge in commercial Road the water was 3 feet deep and traffic held up for nearly 2 hours. In the low lying parts of the Strand district of <Southsea> the roads were inundated and after the flood a layer of black mud was left on the road. A pub in the Clarendon road had its cellars flooded; basements of low lying houses suffered similarly and a basement flat in Nightingale Road was badly flooded. Floods 2 or 3 feet deep occurred in the Pier road district with large floods outside the Royal Pier Hotel. The car park on the east side of Clarence Pier was completely submerged. A cold storage in Belgrave Street was flooded. Hotels along the Western Parade suffered badly with many basements flooded to a depth of a foot and lifts were put out of order.

<Fareham>: The storm came from the direction of Stubbington where places were flooded to a depth of a foot. West Street Fareham with its wood blocks was damaged by the floods. The torrent dislodged manholes in Southampton Road and Quay Street.

<Portchester>: Water rushed from the high levels of Portsdown, down Hill road to Station Road and flooded the cross roads of the main Southampton Road to a depth of more than 2 feet. The water entering Castle Street flooded deep trenches made for the new main drainage system.

<Chichester>: Priory Park was flooded in most parts and 1.89" was recorded in the first 50 minutes of the downpour.

<Bournemouth>: Rain flooded outlying districts to nearly 2 feet .

<Ryde> (IOW): Railway traffic was held up for 6 hours as a tunnel was flooded . the Esplanade was flooded right across and many cars were put out of action.

**12 Aug 1938**  
**Mid Sussex**  
**Times 16 Aug,**  
**Sevenoaks**  
**Chronicle 19**  
**Aug**

**19 Aug 1939**  
**BR**

**7 Jun 1941 BR** Fordingbridge: 1.72 in 90 m  
**1941**

**13 Jul 1941** Storms occurred at locations  
**BR 1941** in Brighton, Worcester and  
Northampton.  
Patcham: 0.63 in 10 m

**26 Jul 1941**  
**BR 1941**

**29 Aug 1942** Ryde: 1.45" in 60 m  
**BR 1942** West Dean Park: 1.32 in 60 m  
Binstead (IoW): 2.09" in 2 h

**23 Aug 1944**  
**BR 1944**

**14/15 Jul** Said to be one of the most  
**1945** severe thunderstorms since  
**Hampshire** 1923 in Southern England  
**Telegraph 20** The storms were remarkable  
**Jul, Worthing** rather for long duration than  
**Herald 20 Jul,** for intensity.  
**Eden (2008),**  
**BR 1945**

<Danehill>: The storm was described as the worst for several years. With torrential rain and hail water ran down the sides of the roads and in some places there was flooding. Huge hailstones fell and pierced holes in cabbage and rhubarb leaves. Mud and gravel were heaped in a number of bye roads.

<Edenbridge>: The High Street was flooded level with the kerb and in Lingfield Road by Pounds Pit there was over a foot of water.

<Southampton>: There was a storm between 11.10. and 11.50. and the Salisbury and Winchester Journal reports that 0.77 inch fell in half an hour, the streets being flooded and traffic stopped.

<Fordingbridge>: Thunder, intense rains and flooding occurred (Also Thames chronology)

<Brighton>: there was flooding in the town.

<Long Sutton> (Hants): At the agricultural College 2.72 inches fell in 2 hours. At Lord Wandsworth Agricultural College, Long Sutton, plants were splashed with mud to a height of about 6 inches.

<Andover>: there was damage by flooding and at Binstead (Isle of Wight). There were heavy rainstorms in the evening at Bishop's Cannings and at Aldbourne.

Totland Bay (IoW): The observer stated that nearly 2.51" fell on the 23rd. in less than an hour. Only once in a period of 58 years, and that was on September 24, 1915, when 2.56 in. Was measured, has Mr. Dover recorded a greater fall.

<Chichester>: Farms suffered badly with crops laid flat. On one farm on thin soil over chalk and carrying a field of turnips so severe was the rain that the whole crop and much of the soil was washed into an adjacent road. On some of the farms on the coast flooding was serious and many cottages were flooded. There were reports of smashing of glass at nurseries. A daily rainfall of 2.4" was registered at Priory Park.

<Worthing>: Traffic was brought to a standstill by the hail near <Storrington> and near <Findon> cars were up to their axles in water. Hailstones were described as the size of walnuts but also as chunks of ice. Worthing itself had limited rain.

Eden reports: Thunderstorms caused flooding in Surrey, Sussex and Hampshire with 107 mm rain at Petworth. BR reports: During the storms in the night of the 14th to 15th, 4.20 in. fell at Petworth in 5 ½ hours, 3.12 in at West Walberton in 6 hours 50 minutes and 3.15 in at Godalming, in 7 ½ hours. In about 4 hours 3.30 in fell at Pulborough (Sussex).

**24 Jun 1946**  
**Belfast**  
**Newsletter 25**  
**Jun**

**3 Jul 1946**  
**Nottingham**  
**evening Post**  
**4 Jul,**  
**Coventry**  
**Evening**  
**telegraph 4**  
**Jul**

**26 Jul 1946**  
**Eden (2008)**  
**Yorkshire**  
**Post 27 Jul**  
**Manchester**  
**Guardian 27**  
**Jul**

**Sep 1946 BR**  
**1946**  
**8 Sep 1946**  
**Manchester**  
**Guardian 9**  
**Sep**

**27 Jun 1947**  
**BR 1947**

**16-18 Jul**

The storm extended from Portland Bill to the Humber following a heatwave. The storm was accompanied by hail and high winds.  
Manston: 2.00"  
Lympne: 1.57"

Crawley Down: 0.78 in 15 m

Lindfield Sussex: 0.80 in 15 m

Horsham: 0.99 in 20 m  
Hurstpierpoint: 0.85 in 20 m  
Crawley down: 0.84 in 30 m  
Worth Priory: 0.93 in 45 m

BR notes: Towns on the south coast were badly hit.

<Dover>: The fire service was called out to pump out flooded basements.  
<Folkestone>: Hailstones like pebbles fell.

<Folkestone>: Hailstones measuring 1 ¼ inch across occurred and roads were flooded.  
<Deal>: There was non-stop thunder for 5 hours. The High Street was impassable for 200 yards and 2 feet deep. Lumps of ice an inch long and half an inch broad fell. Fruit trees suffered badly.  
<Margate>: Fire brigade were called out several times to pump from flooded basements.  
<Birchington>: eleven young pigs were drowned and 5 sows were found trying to swim to safety.

<Shanklin><Isle of Wight>: A man was killed by lightning and two girls injured.

<Salisbury>: In a thunderstorm the streets were flooded in less than half an hour. Houses were flooded and cars stranded. The Cathedral Close had five large lakes.  
Thunderstorms were also reported in Kent.

On the 27th, severe storms, following one of the warmest nights on record, developed by midday over south-east and east England. Squally winds accompanied the heavy rain in most cases, adding to the damage caused by floods and lightning.

<Wittersham>: Kent on 17<sup>th</sup> had 91 mm

**1947 Eden** Rye (17<sup>th</sup>): 1.10 in 50 m

**(2008), Webb  
et al (2009),**

**BR 1947**

**18 Sep 1947** Hove: 1.08 in 75 m

**BR**

**11 May 1948** Trowbridge: 1.72" within 2  
**Wiltshire** hours (From 4.14 to 5.25  
1.44" fell)

**Times 15 May**

This appears to be a localised storm.

<Trowbridge> (Wilts): A thunderstorm converted streets into rivers and the main Bristol Portsmouth Railway was flooded while planks floated through Trowbridge station. The track was flooded to a depth of several feet and rose with astounding rapidity. There is no previous record of the railway lines being inundated. A cloth factory in Stallard Street was flooded and workers were cut off from their houses. Flooding also occurred outside the Kitchener's Arms in Hill Street and in the Market Yard. The meadows opposite the Longfield housing estate were covered to a depth of several inches. Later in the evening the <<Biss>> rose rapidly and overflowed. There was no flooding at Cradle Bridge. The storm lasted from 4.15 till nearly 6.00 pm.

<Rode>: Torrents of water poured through the streets and knocked down an 8 foot wall. Vegetables were lacerated with fierce hail; panes of glass in gardens were broken by hail as big as marbles. Water sweeping down from the field behind Rode Hill church was dammed by a wall behind a house on High Street which gave way and flooded Rose Villa. The water then cascaded down to Lower Street where it swept through further houses in some cases reaching a height of 5 feet. At Townsend the cellar of the Crosskeys was flooded to a depth of 4 feet and at the Red Lion opposite the water came up to the window sills Old inhabitants recall a flood in 1894 but this was said to be far worse.

**2 Aug 1948** Winchester: 1.58 in 2 h

**BR 1948**

**6/7 Aug 1948**

**BR 1948,**

**Daily**

**Telegraph**

**15 May 1949**

**Manchester**

Silchester : 2.00 in 35 m

<Folkestone>: After a "tropical" storm at Folkestone flood-water was 2 feet deep on the Folkestone-London main road on the outskirts of the town. Crops in the surrounding countryside were flattened. Damage to roads and property occurred also in east London and <Worthing>.

<Lewes>: In the early hours of the 7th there was a " noteworthy " fall, 1.08 inch being registered in 55 minutes at the Sewage Works. Low lying parts of the town were badly flooded and several properties sustained damage.

<Andover>: 1.1 inches of rain fell in less than an hour at the Gas Works. Houses, hotels and a shop were flooded when the <<River Anton>> rose nearly four feet and burst its banks in places causing streets to be flooded from

**Guardian, BR  
1949**

6 inches to 2 feet deep. Local millers eased the danger by opening sluice gates but it was the worst flooding reported there for years.

**2 Aug 1950  
Ports Mouth  
Evening News**

<Southwick>: In a deluge of rain and hail gravel and mud were washed from the fields and water rushed along the roads like a river

**2 Aug  
10-12 Jun  
1951 BR**

Heathfield: 1.15 in 20 m

<Southampton>: There was flooding in the city on the 10<sup>th</sup>.

<Worthing> and <Portsmouth>: Heavy rains on the night of 11th-12th caused floods in Worthing and Portsmouth.

<Heathfield> (Sussex): On the 12th there was a fall of 1.15 inch in 20 minutes, a "remarkable" fall, but causing no severe flooding. The observer, commenting on this, states that the district is "largely on sandstone, and water is quickly absorbed in this soil", and further, that he knows of "no locality that is ever flooded above a point some six miles downstream" (of his station).

**22 Jun 1951  
BR**

Byworth: 0.97 in 60 m

**30 Jul 1951  
BR**

Cowes: 2.43 in 45 m

<Cowes>: The city engineer wrote that "the intensity of rainfall during the period of the storm did not appreciably vary but was exceptionally heavy for the whole of the period". There was damage by flooding in the town, and "an old two-foot diameter brick sewer collapsed".

**8 Aug 1951  
BR**

Manston: 0.80 in 30 m

<Margate>: The town suffered from flooding when a "noteworthy" fall was recorded at Manston

**22 Aug 1951  
BR**

Brookland: 0.86 in 23 m

**1 Sep 1951 BR**

Rye: 1.83 in 60 m

.

**12 Sep 1951  
BR**

Ash: 0.98 in 60 m

<Eastbourne>: Storms were widespread and there were floods in London and Eastbourne

**19 May 1952  
Dundee  
Courier 20**

<Basingstoke>: Streets were flooded to a depth of 18 inches and the electricity supply failed for much of the town.

**May**

**7-9 Aug 1952**

**BR**

**21 Aug 1954**

**BR (Southern  
daily Echo,  
Isle of Wight  
County Press)**

Freshwater Ps 3.00 in 60 m  
Freshwater School 2.61 in 60  
m

Urban flooding occurred in many places, including Salisbury, Bournemouth and Deal.

<Freshwater> (IoW): The heaviest rainfall was recorded in the Isle of Wight, however, where two "very rare" rains were reported at Freshwater. The fall of 3.00 inches in 60 minutes equals the heaviest known fall in one hour or less in Hampshire, which occurred at Fareham on May 26, 1911. The Southern Daily Echo said, "so heavy was the rain that people caught in the streets were up to their waists in water before they could reach shelter. In seconds tiny streams were turned into raging torrents and roads into rivers. Along the main roads manhole covers were hurled into the air by the terrific pressure of water. Buses and cars were quickly stranded in the swirling floods which reached a depth in places of four feet." The Isle of Wight County Press reported that this local storm did not affect the top of the downs to the south nor extend more than 300 yards offshore, but "The most badly affected property was the Vine Hotel, Freshwater, which formed the focal point of the three torrents rushing down from High Street, Queen's Road and Tennyson Road. Some idea of the force of the flood can be gathered from the fact that in the forecourt of the hotel an iron plate weighing 2 ½ cwt. was torn up and moved several yards. The most fantastic sight of all was in the centre of the road opposite the Prince of Wales Inn where for an hour a heavy iron manhole rose and fell as the pressure of water from the storm varied.

<Hastings> and <Lympne>: The falls on the 24<sup>th</sup> were interesting in that they were associated with warm sector rain, accompanied at Hastings by hail and strong winds. The Sussex Daily News reported that Priors Street in Hastings was under water. Manhole covers were forced up in several places and streets flooded; about 200 telephones were put out of action.

**24 Oct 1954**

**BR (Sussex  
Daily News)**

Hstings 1.34 in 90 m  
Lympne 1.04 in 59 m

<Findon>: This town with <Washington> and <Ashington> experienced a violent storm. Nearly three quarters of an inch of rain fell in a quarter of an hour and there was considerable flooding.

<Goodwood>: there was two inches of rain and the roads were flooded.

<Southsea>: After a heatwave there was a tropical thunderstorm which flooded streets to a depth of 2 feet and swirled into houses shops and a cinema. Parked cars were more than axle deep in water. Water poured down <Cosham> High Street covering the pavements and flooding shop entrances. Torrents of water from Portsdown Hill turned the High Street into a river. Vehicles were marooned in Northern Street in axle deep water.

<Portsmouth>: HT has a photo of a trolley bus stranded under the railway bridge in Commercial Road.

<Maidstone>: A four hour thunderstorm flooded the centre of Maidstone. Basements were flooded and

**11 Jul 1955**

**Worthing  
Herald 15 Jul**

**14 Jul 1955  
Hampshire  
Telegraph 15  
Jul**

**17/18 Jul**

Boxley had 107 mm and



**1955 Eden  
(2008) Lancs  
Evg Post 19  
Jul**

Barming 106 mm causing flooding.  
Rainfall was 3.68 ins in Tunbridge Wells, 3.89 ins in Weymouth and 3.97 in Ramsgate.

manhole covers were forced up. Large hailstones fell at the height of the storm. Landslides occurred on the rail line between Maidstone and Malling. Firemen pumped out flooded homes and factories in the Medway towns.  
<Weymouth>: The river Jordan overflowed and 3 caravans were carried for over 200 yards downstream. One man was killed by lightning. In the town flood levels varied in height between chair height and close to the roof of a motor coach. LEN includes a photo of submerged holiday caravans at Bowleaze Cove, Weymouth.  
<Dorchester>: It suffered flooding. At least 14 people were killed by lightning in July.  
<Ramsgate>: A boy of 16 was killed and 8 others injured by lightning at Ramsgate. Basements were flooded. Thunderstorms also occurred in the Midlands causing havoc to crops in Leicester and Rutland.  
On 17<sup>th</sup> was the great storm at Martinstown with 279 mm nearly all of which fell in 10 hours.

**13/14 Aug  
1955 BR  
(Sunday  
Pictorial)**

Sittingbourne (13<sup>th</sup>) 3.50 in 2 h  
Gosport (14<sup>th</sup>) 1.25 in 45 m  
Chidham (14<sup>th</sup>) 2.29 in 90 m

<Sittingbourne>: A "very rare" fall was reported also at Sittingbourne on the 13th. A landslide following this storm blocked the London-Folkestone road near Maidstone and, according to the Sunday Pictorial the post-office at <Bredgar> near Sittingbourne was flooded.

**23 Sep 1955  
Liverpool  
Echo 23 Sep**

**11 Jun 1956  
Lancs Evg  
Post 12 Jun,  
BR**

It is believed that this storm originated over Alum Bay, and moved north to affect Milford-on-Sea, before returning south-eastwards to Totland Bay.  
Lymington 1.45 in 32 m  
Lymington 2 1.43 in 45 m  
Milford on Sea 1.36 in 80 m

<Bexhill>: Streets and basements were flooded by a cloudburst.

<Totland Bay> <Isle of Wight>: Some roads were flooded to a depth of 18 inches. There was an unofficial report of a fall of "noteworthy" intensity; almost continuous lightning interrupted electricity supplies and telephone services, and streets were flooded within a few minutes of the onset of the storm.

<Lymington>: Heavy damage also occurred where two observers reported "remarkable" falls accompanied by thunder; at the gasworks water cascading off the gas-holders washed a 7-ton stack of coke out on to the railway line in a few minutes. The community centre was flooded with 9 inches of water in the main hall.

**19 Jul 1956  
BR**

Haywards Heath 1.97 in 90 m

<Haywards Heath>: the observer's report mentions damage to business premises and dwelling houses by floods, and says that flood water caused much soil erosion on sloping ground.

**6 Aug 1956  
Birmingham  
Daily Post 7  
Aug, West**

Many thunderstorms were reported from Kent on Bank Holiday.  
Throwley 2.30 in 45 m  
Hurstpierpoint 1.16 in 54 m

<Calbourne> <Isle of Wight>: Hailstones as big as marbles covered the ground 2 inches deep.

(Note severe hail at Tunbridge Wells – See Thames chronology).

<Tunbridge Wells> to <Arundel>: Water ran in rivers in the streets, poured through roofs, bringing down ceilings and flooding cellars and basements. The Tunbridge Wells storm was remarkable in that hail fell for a

**Sussex  
Gazette 9  
Aug,  
Worthing  
herald 10  
Aug, BR**

Arundel Castle 1.78 in 18 m

long time, accompanied by a strong wind, and lay to a depth of more than a foot in places. A bus was seen trapped up to its wheel arches and drifts of more than 4 feet were formed. Twenty-four hours later men and machines were still busy removing the last of the hail. A description of the storm is given in the Meteorological Magazine, Vol. 85, 1956, pp. 297-299.

<Throwley>: In a report on another Kent storm, the observer stated that 2.30 in. fell in 45 minutes with three bursts of hail of duration varying from 5 to 9 minutes. Fruit was severely damaged, and although the hail at the station soon melted, some remained on the North Downs, about 1 ½ miles to the south-west, until next morning.

<Arundel>: Hailstones as big as mothballs crashed on roofs and were swept down the High Street piling into 2 foot deep drifts in The Square and stopping all traffic. In the Square the cellar of the Swan Hotel was 3 feet deep in hail and water as the storm water drains became blocked with the hail. The pottery shop opposite the bus station was flooded. The cellar of the Co-op Stores was also flooded. Lines of traffic a mile long extended along three main roads into Arundel. The temperature dropped 10F. Hundreds of acres of near ripe corn were flattened, flower gardens were ruined. Water rushed through the back door of the Newburgh Arms and out the front and hailstones poured down a chimney into a sitting room. There was a foot of water in River Road and hail 3 feet deep lay at the bottom of Arun Street the following morning.

<Findon>: There was a torrential downpour with hail inches deep and severe flooding. (Worthing escaped).

<Swanage>: It is believed that nearly 2.5 in. of rain fell in little over an hour in a very heavy thunderstorm which broke on August Bank Holiday.

<Arundel Castle>: The observer said that nothing like it had ever been experienced before. The main road through the town was flooded and quite impassable, and water had to be pumped out of a number of houses.

<Andover>: Torrential rain and hailstones fell for 30 minutes in the middle of a 2 hour thunderstorm. Forty shops and many houses were flooded, telephones cut off and traffic stopped. Parts of the town of Andover, Hampshire, were flooded to a depth of 18 in.

**18 Jun 1957  
Birmingham  
daily Post 19  
Jun, BR**

Storms after a heatwave into the 80sF  
Andover 1.63 in 105 m  
Andover 2 1.68 in 2 h

**30 Jun 1957  
BR**

Thunderstorms and heavy rain were reported on the 30th from an extensive area including much of southern and eastern England. On the

Heavy rain with hail did considerable damage to the cherry crop in Kent just as it was about to be gathered.

same day storms also affected parts of eastern Scotland as far north as Caithness.

**1 Jul 1957**  
**Lancs Evg**  
**Post**

<Kent> and elsewhere: Flat lumps of ice as large as spectacle lenses fell for almost 30 minutes causing severe damage to crops, affecting hops and apples and breaking greenhouse and window glass. Resulting floods forced up manhole covers. Many buildings were hit by lightning including a convalescent home in Lowestoft. Sittingborne was hit by a hailstorm.

**3 Jul 1957**  
**Hastings and**  
**St Leonards**  
**Observer 6**  
**Jul, The**  
**Guardian 28**  
**Jul 1993 (Bob**  
**Prichard)**  
**Lancs Evg**  
**post 3 Jul**

The storm recalled the severe storm of 17 July 1947 with 1.92" rain when Priory Street and neighbouring streets were flooded. Severe storms spread over Britain having moved north from France. Two Viscount airliners from Paris to London had their wingtips damaged by hail over the Channel. Eastbourne 1.95 in 40 m  
Dover 1.57 in 60 m  
Deal 1.73 in 80 m  
Bexhill 1.06 in 30 m  
Hasting 1.82 in 2 h

<Hastings> Within 20 minutes of the start of the storm water overwhelmed the drainage system. The Fire brigade received 100 calls to pump out flooded premises. The coastal storm was accompanied by high winds reaching 40 mph. Rain cascaded down the hills and at some low lying points water ran into the basements of houses, hotels, shops, banks and inns. Many manhole covers were forced out of position. Worst hit were occupiers where water backed up the drains bringing with it a black sludge. At the White Rock weather station 1.86" fell in 3.3 hours and about 1.12" fell in about 12 minutes at the height of the storm. At Newgate reservoir 0.9 inch was measured in 20 minutes and 1.6 inches in an hour (or according to the engineer a rate 2 to 3 times the maximum intensity allowed in the Ministry design standards). A focal point of clearing up after the storm was Priory Street . Among other building affected were the Outpatients and dispensing Departments of the Royal East Sussex Hospital, Barclays bank Warrior Square, National Provincial Bank, Grand parade, Stuart Horsler's Grand parade, Attwells, Binfield and company, Grand Parade, Royal Victoria Hotel, several houses in western Road, the cellars of the Standard public house, and houses in the High Street and other parts of the Old Town. The lower hall of the White Rock Pavilion suffered from water backing up the drains. Roads were lifted and badly damaged in Gurth Road and a big hole appeared in Combermere Road. Non-basement houses in Silchester road and basement houses in Kenilworth Road were flooded. Water was 3 feet deep in Pleasant Row. Paving was forced up in Battle Row. In a basement flat in Warrior street an elderly woman awoke to find water 3 to 4 feet deep around her bed. There was extensive flooding in Bexhill road St Leonards. The Town Hall was inundated by water leaking through the roof. The stream in Alexandra Park between Park Crossroad and the boating lake overflowed and damaged flower beds and lawns.

<Weymouth>: the downpour brought just over 2"

<Eastbourne>: Rainfall was nearly 2 ½" and the flooding was described as the worst for at least 40 years.

**20 Jun 1958**

**BR**

**22 Aug 1958**

**BR**

Curdridge 1.57 in 60 m

**5 Sep 1958**

**Eden (2008),**

**Webb et al**

**(2001, 2009),**

**Birmingham**

**Daily Post 6**

**Sep, BR**

**(Further**

**references:**

Severe thunderstorms affected SE England Highest rainfall totals were 131 mm at Knockholt . (but some reports say 128mm in 3 hours!); 102 mm at Eynsford in Kent 63.5mm of rain in 20 minutes at Sidcup, Kent on the 5th is a record for such a period The storm complex was regarded as one of the most violent of recent times. They were accompanied by TORNADOES (at least two) as they moved north eastwards across much of Sussex into Kent and Essex (thus skirting the eastern and southern suburbs of Greater London) BR provides maps of daily (storm) rainfall and hail distribution and magnitude.

A full description of the storm is given in the Meteorological Magazine for October 1960

Knockholt WW 5.14 in c 2h

<Deal>: In a thunderstorm 1.3 inches of rain fell in 20 minutes; roads were flooded to 2 feet.

BR notes: Falls of "remarkable" intensity were recorded at Deal, Dover, Eastbourne and Harlech.

Hail in Kent again did extensive damage to fruit.

<Margate>: There was flooding at a number of points, flood water reaching a depth of 2 ft in the market place at Margate.

<Crowbridge>: A landslide at Crowbridge partly blocked the Tunbridge Wells-Brighton line whilst at <Brighton> itself a "noteworthy" fall was recorded; some flooding was reported in the town and also in the nearby <Shoreham> area.

<Curdridge>: A remarkable fall occurred there, near Southampton, but no serious flooding was reported.

<Horsham> Sussex: (Webb) The hailstorm was at its peak with hailstones 70 to 80 mm diameter and one was weighed at 190 g. Britain's largest authenticated hailstone fell at Horsham – 10 cm across and weighing 141 g. the Met office said they were the biggest since 1935. Roofing tiles and windows were broken, tree bark was split and the ground pitted 5 cm deep.

<Gatwick>: An aircraft approaching Gatwick was severely dented in flight. A gust of 74 knots was recorded and a hangar was wrecked. The flooding led to the closure of the main London to Southend road for some hours during the night.

<Tunbridge Wells>: An observer looking out from Tunbridge Wells reported that "the whole NW horizon was ablaze (from LIGHTNING activity) - the strokes were too rapid to be distinguished".

<Coulsdon>: The main railway line to Brighton was blocked by a fall of chalk and other suburban lines in Kent were affected by landslips.

BR gives a full report on the storms by EH Rowsell. This is a summary:

The remarkable storms that affected south-east England on the evening of September 5, 1958 were amongst the most severe ever known in that area and extensive damage was caused by hailstones, tornado winds and extremely heavy rainfall.

Two major storm-tracks were apparent.

1. The first storm approached the Isle of Wight about 1300 GMT and moved northeastwards. Heavy rain began at Portsmouth about 1530, Petersfield about 1600, Guildford about 1700, south London about 1800, Chelmsford after 1900, Colchester at 2030 and over the Stour estuary at 2100 GMT.

2. The second storm brought heavy rain to the hinterland of Brighton at about 1800 GMT and moved in a more

Chevening Gdns 3.55 in 2 h 30 m  
Sevenoaks 1 3.78 in 2 h  
Sevenoaks 2 3.36 in 2 h

northerly direction, reaching Rochester about 1900 and east Essex about 2000 GMT. Over north-west Kent and nearby parts of Surrey and Sussex and also over Essex the two storms seemed to merge and large areas had more than three inches of rain, much of which fell within a period of two hours.

More than an inch of rain fell in a wide belt from near Chichester to Earls Colne and Colchester, a distance of nearly 100 miles. This was joined about Westerham and Sevenoaks by another belt which began to the north of Haywards Heath. The whole area was about 25 miles wide south of London (extending from Sutton to Tonbridge) and over 34 miles wide to the northeast (from near Harlow to Foulness Island). There was more than 4 inches in Kent at Eynsford and at Knockholt Waterworks a fall of 5.14 inches for one day is the heaviest yet recorded in Kent.

Seventy-eight intense falls of less than two hours' duration were accepted as worthy of note according to the classification used for British Rainfall, 1 namely, noteworthy, remarkable, very rare. The most intense falls were predominantly in Kent and Sussex.

<Horsham>: Hailstones are graded from 1 (diameters up to 0.5 centimetres) to 7 (diameters of 9.0 centimetres or more). Areas near Horsham had hailstones graded as 6 or 7 as observed by local inhabitants. "The largest hailstones were reported to be like tennis or cricket balls, or half grapefruits. Not all were spherical; many were dimpled on one side, like a doughnut but without a hole, while some were flattened discs, rather like half-crowns, and others again were irregular and even 'jagged' lumps of ice. One correspondent picked up from his lawn a stone which was s 5 to 6 inches long and like a piece of glass. Several weights of 4 ounces were recorded while even heavier stones were measured by Mr. Forrest (three of 4 ½ ounces), Mr. King (between 4 and 5 ounces), Mr. Browning of north-west Horsham (6 ounces), and Mr. Shortt of Southwater (6 ¾ ounces 'to within about 2 grams').

Widespread damage was due to four main causes: hail; the tornado, especially in the Horsham district; weight of rain such as resulted in the collapse of the supports and vines in most of the hop gardens of the <<Darent Valley>>; and flooding such as occurred in the <<Eden valley>>, in Essex and in many towns and villages where the sewers became surcharged and subsequently overflowed. Fortunately much of the heavy rain fell over chalk country where the flood water soaked away in a few hours, but considerable damage occurred in the ironstone regions of the old hammer ponds where earthen dams were partly washed away.

<Cowden> (on the Kent- Sussex border): Part of the 400-foot Furnace Mill dam was eroded, a road was damaged and buildings undermined.

< Penshurst Place>: The observer reported the drowning of cattle and sheep.

<Horsted Keynes>: At Cinder Hill where 2.33" fell in one hour the observer reported "this quantity of rain in so short a time caused great damage to ponds, dams, overflows and to roads running through the estate. The flooding was increased by the streams which come down from Ashdown Forest to the north. **We were suddenly hit by a wall of water some 220 feet wide and 4 to 5 feet high in the middle.**" At Nobels Farm, near Horsted Keynes, 300 pullets were drowned and the Holy Well Pumping Station of was partly inundated with a consequent, temporary, curtailment of the water supply.

< Kirdford> (near Billingshurst): the observer reported "We lost about 10,000 bushels of apples from 50 acres of orchards, the remainder, left on the trees, were nearly all hail-marked and worthless. This house, although on a hill, was soon invaded by water as every drain was blocked by debris and hail"

Further references:

LUDLAM, F. H. and MACKLIN, w. c.; Some aspects of a severe storm in S.E. England. Nubila, Verona, 2, No. 1, 1959, p. 38.

3. LUDLAM, F. H. and MACKLIN, W. C.; The Horsham hailstorm of September 5, 1958. Met. Mag., London, October 1960, No. 1,059, Vol. 89, pp. 245-251.

4. HORNER, F. ; The Thunderstorms of September 5, 1958—Lightning discharges and atmospherics. Met. Mag., London, October 1960, No. 1,059, Vol. 89, pp. 257-260.

<Wye> (Kent): Remarkable fall occurred at Wye, while a "noteworthy" fall was reported from Bexhill, Sussex. Minor flooding and some damage to soil structure occurred in the vicinity of Wye.

<Ash> (Kent):

Violent thunderstorms hit the south coast between the Isle of Wight and Portland Bill giving many noteworthy falls accompanied by local flooding. A feature of the storms was the frequency of hail and the abnormal size of some of the hailstones. Most of the storms were of short duration, but intense, although one in the New Forest lasted for half an hour. The main Basingstoke-Southampton road was flooded for some time in many places with rain and melting hailstones.

<Portsmouth>: Remarkable falls occurred at a number of places that night including one at Portsmouth, where many roads were under water.

**14 Sep 1958**

**BR**

**26 Jun 1959**

**BR**

**9 Jul 1959 BR**

Ash 1.88 in 60 m  
Broadstairs 3.40 in 5 h

Thunderstorms followed a period of exceptionally high temperatures up to >30C  
Silchester House 0.91 in 15 m  
Sutton scotney 1.00 in 20 m

**10/11 Jul**

**1959 BR**

10<sup>th</sup>  
Hurn (Bournemouth Apt) 1.22 in 114 m  
Southsea 1.96 in 4 h 30m

<p><b>9 Aug 1959</b> <b>Birmingham</b> <b>daily post 10</b> <b>Aug</b></p>	<p>Alice Holt Lodge. 11<sup>th</sup> Portsmouth 1.36 in 2 h Gosport 1.20 in 2 h S Farnborough 1.90 in 2 h Rowledge 1.90 in 90 m A thunderstorm broke the dry spell in N Dorset and S Wiltshire</p>	<p>&lt;Bournemouth&gt;: A cloudburst over the central and northern parts of Bournemouth flooded roads, some up to 2 feet and water entered shops and houses in several parts. In Charminster Road manhole covers were lifted up and a garage and a neighbouring house were flooded. The &lt;&lt;Bourne Stream&gt;&gt; in the Central Pleasure Gardens overflowed and flooded the lawns.</p>
<p><b>21 Aug 1959</b> <b>Lancs Evg</b> <b>Post 21 Aug</b> <b>22-24 Jun</b> <b>1960 Eden</b> <b>(2008) Lancs</b> <b>Evg News 23</b> <b>Jun</b></p>	<p>Thunderstorms caused flooding in Oxfordshire and Berkshire 22<sup>nd</sup> Hurn Apt 1.62 in 2 h Everton 2.40 in 3 h 30 m 23<sup>rd</sup> New Milton 2.15 in 2 h Freshwater PS 1.90 in 3 h 30 m</p>	<p>&lt;Jersey&gt;: A storm hit resorts with cars stranded. &lt;St Helier&gt; hotels were flooded including the basement of the Grand Hotel. &lt;Portsmouth&gt;: A thunderstorm caused damage to buildings. Temperatures in the southeast reached 87F. The main storm began shortly before midnight on the 22nd and continued for about 12 hours; it moved on a curved track from Dorset and eastern Hampshire, through Wiltshire, Oxfordshire and east Midland counties into Suffolk. The storm left a trail of damaged homes and crops, flooded roads and buildings and interrupted public services. &lt; Isle of Wight&gt;: 1.88 ins fell in 3 hours.</p>
<p><b>2 Aug 1960</b> <b>BR</b></p>	<p>Tangmere Airfield 0.74 in 15 m Thorney Island Airfield 1.44 in 24 m</p>	<p>&lt;Newport&gt; &lt;Isle of Wight&gt;: was cut off by flooding which affected the &lt;&lt;Lukely Stream&gt;&gt; and &lt;&lt;River Medina&gt;&gt;. It affected hundreds of houses and many shops. Anchorage house for the elderly at Hunnyhill was under 10 feet of water.</p>
<p><b>1 Oct 1960</b> <b>Lancs Evg</b> <b>News, COL</b> <b>Jun 1999</b></p>	<p>Thakeham 1.27 in 30 m</p>	<p>&lt;Chillerton&gt; (IoW): 3.1 inches of rain was reported in one hour. Thunderstorms accompanying the movement of a depression north-eastwards across the country from a position south of Ireland. It was one of the unusually few falls of intense rain in 1961. No flooding was reported in BR for the year</p>

**4 Sep 1961**  
**Lancs Evg**  
**Post 4 Sep**

<Fareham>: People were ferried by boat to their homes along a flooded street.  
A thunderstorm in East Kent and the Isle of Wight caused serious flooding.  
<Cowes>: the town was especially hit where there was of 2 feet of water in the High Street.

**6 Aug 1962**  
**BR**

Hastings 1.78 in 2 h  
Rye 1.73 in 2 h  
Deal 1.30 in 45 m  
Hambleton 1.57 in 50 m

No flooding was reported again in BR for the year and few intense rainfalls occurred.

**13 Jun 1963**  
**BR**

**28 Jun 1963**

Hurn 0.77 in 25 m

**BR**

**31 May 1964**

Rusper 43.9 in 2 h

**BR**

**13 Jun 1964**

<Worthing><Bognor><Littlehampton><Shoreham><Henfield>: Hotels, houses and other buildings were flooded

**Liverpool**

**Echo 13 Jun**

**14 Aug 1966**

Lyndhurst 34.3 in 75 m

**BR**

**21 Aug 1966**

Fairseat manor 29.0 in 75 m

**29 Aug 1966**

Lyndhurst 22.4 in 35 m

**BR**

**30 Sep 1966**

Littlehampton 31.0 in 2 h

**BR**

**3 Jun 1968 BR**

Four Marks 36.0 in 60 m

**9/10 Jul 1968**

Severe persistent flooding occurred in a belt extending from the Southwest to the Wash. More than 100 mm fell over Somerset Gloucestershire, Worcestershire,

<Worthing>: (Sussex), recorded 59.8mm on the 9<sup>th</sup>. At Worthing a rail station subway was flooded.

<Deal>: Roads were flooded and manhole covers forced off.

<Brighton>: Creed's teleprinter factory was flooded to 6 feet. Patcham Fawcett School boiler room was flooded 7 feet deep.

**Eden (2008)**

**The Guardian**

**12 Jul, Lancs**

**Evg Post 10**

<Portslade>: A line of shops was flooded and residents said that the floods were the worst for 20 years.



Jul,

Warwickshire, Northampton  
Cambridgeshire and  
Lincolnshire. LEP reports  
flooding from a thunderstorm  
in parts of Kent and Sussex  
Totland Bay IOW 50.8 in 2 h  
10<sup>th</sup>  
Falmer 43.2 in 116 m  
Hove 63.5 in 116 m  
Shoreham WW 58.2 in 116 m  
Woodman's farm 40.1 in 2 h  
30 m  
Mile Oak 60.2 in 40 m  
Patcham WW 64.3 in 90 m  
Worthing 50.8 in 1 h  
Prolonged heavy rain  
(enhanced by some long-lived  
thunderstorms forming in the  
vicinity of an occlusion across  
SE England, which in turn was  
associated with a slow-  
moving depression over  
northern France) on the 14th,  
15th and 16th in 1968 caused  
widespread and severe  
flooding in the south east of  
England with 215mm falling  
at Northchapel (West Sussex)  
within 24 hours and 57mm in  
42 minutes at Purleigh  
(Surrey).  
West Malling 53.0 in 2 h

**14-16 Sep  
1968**

<http://booty.org.uk/booty.weather/climate/>

**Pike  
(1993), Salter  
and Richards  
(1974), BR  
1968, The  
Guardian 17  
Sep**

Further information in:

SALTER, P. R. S.; An exceptionally heavy rainfall in July 1968. Met Mag, London, 97, 1968, pp. 372-380.

SALTER, P. R. S.; A further note on the heavy rainfall of 10 July 1968. Met Mag, London, 98, 1969, pp. 92-94.

<East Molesey>: SW London near Hampton Court Palace was particularly badly affected. More generally, much of Essex, Surrey, Kent, and London recorded 150mm (locally 200mm) over these 2 to 3 days. Tilbury, Essex recorded 201 mm in two days - more than one-third of the normal annual fall. From mid-afternoon on the 15th, flooding over streams and rivers built up rapidly in Surrey, causing disruption to traffic and damage to property. One person was killed (a man died of a heart attack as he was swept away by flood-water). The widespread flooding took many days to subside - the impact was primarily due to the rapid/long-lasting nature of the intense rainfall (convective cells) - but was perhaps most unusual in that it affected such a large area of SE England.

<Whitstable>(N Kent): 500 houses were flooded but there was an even bigger danger from a reservoir which was near overtopping and could have flooded a further 1000 houses but pumping reduced the level. An inshore rescue boat was taken to the Belmont area of the town to evacuate elderly residents. Some roads in the town were under 3 feet of water.

Newspapers in Kent (e.g. 'Kent Messenger') stated that it was "the worst FLOODING since 1814".

Pike (1993) noted that around the Thames estuary 125 mm fell in 24 hours over northwest Kent with 200 mm in 48 hours over extreme southern Essex. Flooding was widespread especially in Surrey (Salter and Richards (1974) Salter P.M. and Richards, C.J. (1974) A memorable rainfall event over southern England (Part I) Meteorological Magazine, 103, 255-268.

Further information for flooding in 1968 in:

		GRINDLEY, J.; Rainfall over Great Britain and Northern Ireland during 1968. Wat and Wat Engng, London, 73, 1969, pp. 150-154.
		GRINDLEY, J.; Some highlights of 1968 rainfall over Britain. Weather, London, 24, 1969, PP. 362-369.
		BLEASDALE, A.; The rainfall of 14th and 15th September 1968 in comparison with previous exceptional rainfall in the United Kingdom. J Instn Wat Engrs, London, 24, 1970, pp. 181-189.
		BR 1968 shows a map of the distribution of rainfall in a 2 day period from 09.00 14 Sep showing some totals over 200 mm north of London and a belt over 100 mm extending from Hampshire to Essex.
		The Guardian reports 'The river levels in Kent are 13 feet higher than usual and 1 ½ feet higher than during the 1960 floods estimated at a 1 in 30 year occurrence. "What has happened now might alter our view".
<b>20 Aug 1970</b>		<Brighton><Worthing>: The main Brighton to Lewes Road was blocked by floods. Homes and many other roads were flooded.
<b>Liverpool</b>		
<b>Echo 20 Aug</b>		
<b>27 Sep 1971</b>	Liphook Hants: 1.45" in 42 m	
<b>COL</b>		
<b>Eden (2008)</b>		<Romney Marsh>: Thunderstorm with hail affected Kent with sheep killed by hailstones on Romney Marsh
<b>18/19 Jul</b>		
<b>1972</b>		
<b>21 May 1973</b>	Hastings 1.26 in 2 h 30 m	<Hastings>: the storm produced local flooding.
<b>COL</b>		
<b>6 Jul 1973</b>	Lyndhurst 1.60 in 105 m	
<b>COL</b>		
<b>15 Sep 1973</b>	During the third week of September east Kent received some of the heaviest rainfalls recorded in SE England.	<Herne Bay> (East Kent): On the night of the 15 <sup>th</sup> Herne Bay recorded 2 ¼ inches in only 30 minutes compared with an annual average of 22.4" resulting in severe flooding in the town.
<b>COL, Eden</b>		<Canterbury>: Heavy rain reached the Canterbury area at 19.00 on 20 <sup>th</sup> and continued throughout the night. In addition there were reports of violent thunderstorms between 04.00 and 06.00 on 21 <sup>st</sup> and the major part of the exceptional falls fell between these hours
<b>(2008)</b>		<Thanet> and <Ashford> : these were the worst hit areas with 7 inches at Ashford in a 12 hour period. Many fields in this area were flooded to a depth of 4 feet and a number of farm animals were drowned. Most of the

main roads were closed for a time and railway lines were blocked by several landslides. There was more flooding in the Thanet area on 23<sup>rd</sup> with a further inch of rain on saturated ground.

**20/21 Sep  
1973 COL,  
Eden (2008) ,  
Margate local  
and Family  
History**

A wave forming on a cold front near Corunna on 19 Sep advanced slowly northeast across Bordeaux to NE France and the Dover Straits producing rainfalls between 20 and 40 mm in northern France between 06.00 and 18.00 on 19th with nearly 7 inches at Manston during the night of 20/21st and two inches over a large part of SE England.

<Gillingham>: On the night of 20<sup>th</sup> 3.71" fell in 18 hours. In just over 12 hours <West Stourmouth> received 191 mm, <Margate>, 172 mm, <Ashford> 167 mm, <Manston> 161 mm and <Minster> 151 mm. 32 stations recorded over 100 mm.

There was further flooding on the 21<sup>st</sup> mainly between 04.00 and 06.00 and the worst hit areas were <Thanet> and <Ashford>. According to a local newspaper 7" fell in Ashford in a 12 hour period. Many fields were flooded to a depth of 4 feet and a number of farm animals were drowned. Most of the main roads in the area were closed for a time and railway lines were partially blocked by several landslides.

<Westgate>: Six inches of rain water had fallen on bone dry agriculture land and formed two main streams breaching walls at Quex, Belmont and Linden roads. The deluge washed through properties including St Augustines school which took a column of water and mud. 23 people were rescued from rooftops and lofts there was one death, 77 year old Mrs Victoria Scott.

**27 Jun 1974  
COL, U  
Reading  
Maya  
dissertation  
(2014)**

Cranbrook 1.15 in 20 m  
Hastings 1.57 in 30 m

<Hastings>: The thunderstorm lasted an hour and a half and was seen to be very localised. In the first half hour 1.57 inches fell. the observer was marooned by floods in the centre of town by floods (which coincided with the high tide); it was the heaviest rain recorded in the town since 1957.

Maya dissertation notes: The affected region in East Sussex lay between two depressions, one of which was located to the North East over Scandinavia, and the other to the West of the UK. The depression over Scandinavia brought cool dry air from the North, whereas to the West of the UK tropical maritime winds travelled across northern France bring. The convergence of the cold, very dry air from the North with the warm moist air from the South West led to a region of instability, which triggered the thunderstorms causing the Hastings flood.

<Medstead> (Hampshire): A local thunderstorm dropped 96 mm at <Medstead> and 85 mm at <Alton>.

**31 Jul 1975  
Eden (2008)  
13 Sep 1975  
COL  
29 sep 1975**

Lyndhurst 30.7 in 2 h (Daily  
64.2

Maidstone 28 mm in 45 m

**COL**

**12 Jun 1977**

**COL**

Late on 12th thunderstorms broke out over S England and these plus non-thundery rain gave up to 40 mm rain in the region during the night. Most of England was cloudy and cold but the eastern side of the country lay on the edge of very hot continental air.

Several parts of E Anglia and inland Kent reached 25-26° while only 100 km further inland the inland maxima were only 10-14°. That night some of the most spectacular thunderstorms for maybe 20 years affected SE England. During the early morning the storms moved northwards becoming less intense.

<Weymouth>: had 78mm in 24 hrs.

**12 Jul 1977**

**COL**

During the morning a large area of thunderstorms moved from the SE into the IOW, W Hampshire Dorset and W Wiltshire and Somerset

<Weymouth>: 78.5 mm fell, 61.5 at Portland Naval Base (and at Friar Waddon 7km SW of Dorchester 102 mm was recorded nearly all falling within 2 hours.

**13 Jun 1977**

**Webb (2016)**

Biggin Hill (Kent) 57 mm in 48 m

A thunderstorm was reported throughout Kent, London and Essex.

**29 Jul 1979**

**COL**

Heavy rain with local thunderstorms spread across many southern counties during the night and morning of 29<sup>th</sup> with between 25 and 50 mm falling in places with numerous reports of local flooding

<Littleton> (N of Winchester): 47.5 mm was recorded ([duration not noted].

<Bramdean Woodcote>: 58.6 mm fell in 2 hours.

<West Meon>: As much as 85 mm may have fallen in 3 hours or less.

**14/15 Aug**

**1980 COL**

**20 Sep 1980**

**COL**

Thunderstorms with heavy rain occurred between Worthing and Oxford.

<Overton> (Hants): In two thundery bursts 31.9 mm fell in 1.5 hours in the first burst then a further 22.9 mm most between 00.45 and 01.30.

<Worthing>: During the evening and early night the town recorded 95 mm rain.

**13/14 Apr**

**1981 Eden**

**(2008), COL**

Strong easterly winds affected the southern half of Britain with some heavy thundery showers in Surrey, West Sussex and the south Midlands

<Horsham> (Sussex): had an unusually early thunderstorm with 86 mm in less than 8 hours in the early morning of 14<sup>th</sup> (COL says 82 mm). COL station notes says 57.4 in 6.8 hours with widespread serious flooding

**9 May 1981**

**COL**

<Cranbrook> (Kent): 34 mm was recorded in 40 minutes during the afternoon in an isolated storm.

**13 Jul 1982**

<Guernsey><St Peter Port>: 40 mm in one hour was reported . A number of shops and other working premises were flooded up to a depth of 3 feet and one display window was forced in. several householders reported mud and sewage running through their homes.

**23 Sep 1982**  
**COL**

<Hastings>: there was extensive flooding in the town centre after heavy rainfall in the morning.

**5 Jun 1983**  
**Eden (2008),**  
**Webb et al**  
**(2009), COL,**  
**Daily Mail 6**  
**Jun**

Four successive storms deposited large hail along swaths of the south coast of England. (Wells, 1983, Mortimore & Rowe, 1984; Hill, 1984).

The first of these storms were responsible for a 200 km hail swath from Dorset to East Sussex, this swath 10–12 km wide in places. **Hail of 42 mm diameter was measured at Chichester.** There was widespread damage to glasshouses, car and caravan bodywork etc. Also, hail 25–50 mm across affected the Channel Island of Jersey.  
<Portsmouth>: Youngsters were canoeing down their flooded streets (photo). Severe thunderstorms occurred here and on I o W. **A 6.5 cm diameter hailstone was measured** on Hayling Island.  
<Brighton>: 15mm diameter hailstones were measured the largest in the record since 1952.  
<Popswell> (Hampshire): Residents frantically knocked down walls to divert rain water threatening their homes.  
<Bournemouth>: Hailstones smashed greenhouses and conservatory windows.

**23 Jun 1983**  
**Eden (2008),**  
**COL**

Thunderstorms hit Hampshire and adjacent Surrey and Sussex

<Rotherfield Park>: had 103 mm  
< Brown Candover>: had 93 mm  
<Tunbridge Wells>: Rain began at 3.45 pm and within 4 minutes visibility was reduced to 150 to 200 yards. The torrential rain lasted only 3 minutes but heavy rain continued for half an hour. The storm had been very localised but flooded numerous homes and shops including The Pantiles by the 41.9mm downpour.

**21 Aug 1983**  
**COL**

Generally the driest summer (Jul and Aug) since 1976

<Littlehampton>: Daily total of 52 mm in a thunderstorm

**16 May 1984**  
**COL**

<Liphook> (Hants): Daily rainfall of 51 mm

<Romsey> (Hants): 27.2 mm fell in one hour.

**17 Jun 1984**  
**COL**

<Tunbridge>: 27.7 mm fell in 1 h 10 m

**23 Jul 1984**  
**COL, Eden**

Severe storm in Bracknell area (See Thames chronology)

<Portsmouth>, <Chichester> and <Horsham> areas were worst hit with 92 mm at <Hayling Island> and 87 mm at <Havant>.

**(2008)**

**25 Jul 1984**

**COL**

<Hayling Island>: in the early hours of 25<sup>th</sup> 91 mm fell in a heavy storm. A number of other stations recorded over 80 mm.

**23 Jun 1986**

Birdham 29.3 mm in 90 m

**COL**

**8 Jul 1986**

Romsey: 22.6 mm in 35 m

**COL**

**29 Jul 1986**

Guernsey ½ inch of rain in 15 minutes

**COL**

**17 Jul 1987**

**COL**

<Hove>: 40 mm was recorded in 1 hour, 60 mm in 2 hours and 86 mm in 4 hours. The severe thunderstorm occurred from 00.30 to 03.00 with hail for a few minutes at 03.00. Very severe flooding was reported from a number of areas in Brighton and Hove.

**21 Aug 1987**

**COL**

<Maidstone>: Flash flooding made the Maidstone to Ashford A20 impassable in parts. At <Ashford> 48.8 mm was recorded and at Keycol Hill 28.5 mm

**18 Apr 1988**

**COL**

<Hove>: In a thunderstorm 15.4 mm fell in 17 minutes

**12 Oct 1988**

**COL**

<Guernsey>: Localised torrential rain 1 ½ inches in places caused widespread flooding. At the Airport 24.6 mm fell in 1 hour.

**18 Oct 1988**

**COL**

<Birdham> (W Sussex): In a thunderstorm 16.0 mm fell in 10 minutes.

**10 Sep 1989**

**COL**

<Dover>: 30.6 mm fell between 00.20 and 00.50 and the town plus Folkestone and Hythe were flooded.

**26/27 Oct**

Heavy rain and thunderstorms on 26<sup>th</sup> affected the south coast of Sussex and Kent. Daily rainfall 73.2 at Dover and 59.9 T Worthing Further heavy rain but no mention of thunder with

**1990 COL**

<Dover>: With 117 mm in 2 days there was local flooding as the drains could not take the water. Other towns in Kent also suffered in this way especially <Herne Bay>.

<b>27 Jun 1991</b> <b>COL</b>	47.5 at Ashford 43.7 at Shide and 39.4 at Hastings Exceptionally wet June in most of Britain Hastings 1 25.9 in 30 m Hastings 2 15.2 in 12 m of daily rainfall of 23.2 mm	<Hastings>: thunderstorm with hail resulted in serious local flooding in Hastings town
<b>10 Jun 1992</b> <b>COL</b>		<Steyning>: 15.3 mm in 30 m <Hastings>: 26.6 mm in 66 minutes of which 16.0 mm in 9 m.
<b>20 Jul 1992</b> <b>COL</b>	Thunderstorms affected southern and eastern England. Storm totals were Shanklin 49.3 Sandown 43.9 Ventnor 38.6 Brighton 42.1 Hove 40.7 Dover 40.4 Herne Bay 54.0	<Alton> (Hants): 14.2 mm in 9 minutes <Shamklin (IoW): Thousands of pounds worth of damage was caused by the flooding. 'Islanders said it was the worst storm to hit the Isle of Wight for 30 years' <Hastings>: 22 mm in 15 m <Fareham>: Many roads were impassable due to flooding. 2000 properties were without power. <Guernsey>: Heavy rain caused flooding in low parts of the island – 18.9 mm in 50 m
<b>26 May 1993</b> <b>COL</b>		<Vernham Dean> (Hamps): Torrential rain gave 57.7 mm mostly within 2 hours. Local flooding occurred with stones and debris washed from the hillsides
<b>22 Aug 1993</b> <b>COL</b>	Heavy thundery rain in the extreme south of England and the Channel Islands	<Guernsey> <Ancrese>: 74.6 daily rainfall. A thunderstorm occurred from 23.00 to 00.30 but with continuing heavy rain. There was widespread flooding the worst in the lower lying northerh half of Guernsey and in places the water reached 3 feet deep and some cars had to be abandoned. The previous wettest day in Guernsey was on 19 Oct 1865 <Guernsey> <Airport> 45.2 mm <Carrefour au Clerq> (Jersey) 29.6 mm
<b>10 Aug 1994</b> <b>COL</b>		<Burgess Hill> (W Sussex): Very localised torrential falls of rain caused some areas to be flooded with manholes lifted
<b>14 Sep 1994</b> <b>COL</b>		<Vernham Dean> (Hampshire): Torrential ain and hail fell from 15.30 to 17.00 leading to local floods. <<Winterbourne Stream>> went from dry to full running as water cascaded from surrounding hills within approximately 1 hour from 15.30.

**26 Jul 1995**

**COL**

**30 Dec 1995**

**Weather Jan**

**1995 (Holmes**

**The West**

**Sussex floods)**

The heavy rainfall on 30 December was followed by more heavy rainfall in the first half of January which caused further significant flooding from persistent rainfall. Chalk water levels reached their highest levels since records began in 1836

**7 Jun 1996**

**COL**

After a short heat wave thunderstorms with giant hail affected Dorset, Wilts to Cambridgeshire and Norfolk.

**12 Aug 1996**

**Eden (2008),**

**COL**

Folkestone 4.33"  
Hastings 0.82"  
Eastbourne 0.60"  
Hove 0.41"

<Worthing>: In the tarring district roads and pavements were under water in several places when the sudden rush of water had overwhelmed the drains.

<Chichester>: Although not convective in origin, the flooding was severe and an intense total of 18.8 mm in 1 hour in mid afternoon on 30 Dec and daily totals of over 40 mm. The rate of rainfall was so great that drains and water outflows could not cope. The river Lavant overflowed its man-made banks as it tried to flow in full spate through Chichester.

<Arundel>; As rainfall continued eastward, Arundel the Storrington became flooded. Further east at Wivelsfield a garage forecourt was flooded and many cars were affected by 1 m of water. Residents at Worlds end near Wivelsfield railway station had to sandbag their doors to prevent flood water entering.

<Uckfield>: The town shopping centre had shop contents including a freezer floating out into the street

<Vernham Dean> (Hants): 1.17 inches of rain fell in 2 and ½ hours with some hail accompanied by a strong gusty wind.

<Folkestone>: A thunderstorm gave 112 mm rain mostly in 6 hours and large parts of the town were under 1 to 2 metres of water.

<Folkestone>: A COL observer notes a Radio Kent report of 3 collapsed houses and looking for survivors with 8 feet of water and a list of roads flooded. A hotel at <Sandgate> was flooded. The TV showed flooding of Black Bull Road and a hole in the sea wall made to release water. The natural drainage of Folkestone is the <<Pent Stream>> half a mile of which is shown to be behind Folkestone hospital. From thence it has been built over beneath Foord Viaduct to the sea in Harbour area. A sketch map shows the main flooded area was along the line of the culverted stream.

<Ashford>: 94 mm fell in 2 hours. More rain fell in 2 hours than in the previous four months. Four houses were struck by lightning and many parts of the town were flooded. On the M20, cars and lorries were abandoned at Junction 10 and only one lane was passable in both directions. The A28 Ashford to Canterbury road at Kennington was flooded to a depth of 3 feet. The River<<Stour>> burst its banks north of the town. Many businesses in the town centre were flooded with thousands of pounds of damage. Lightning strikes cut power supplies over a wide area. Seven Eurostar trains were delayed for up to 90 minutes caused by lightning striking signals.

<Brighton>: Two stations, one recorded 16 mm and the other 17 mm in a thunderstorm lasting one hour. Shops



were flooded near the sea front.

**22 Aug 1996**

**COL**

<Hurstpierpoint> (W Sussex): With heavy thundery rain from 21.00 to early 23<sup>rd</sup>, 38.3 mm fell

**1 Jun 1997**

**COL**

<Fareham> and <IoW>: In a thunderstorm golf ball sized hail fell.

<Brighton>: Although a thunderstorm gave only 10.7 mm rain at the station, minor flooding of homes occurred on several streets.

**5 Jun 1997**

**COL**

<Dover>: Visibility was reduced to a few yards in the town centre. Debris was washed down from the hills and the drains were unable to take the flow. However at the observers station 2 miles inland there was only 0.7 mm rain.

**17 Jun 1997**

**COL**

<Shaftesbury>: 19.3 mm in 40 minutes.

**22 Jun 1997**

**COL**

<Burgess Hill> (W Sussex): there was damage from lightning and flooding with 25.1 mm rain.

**26 Jun 1997**

**COL**

<Bognor Regis> (W Sussex): A severe storm brought 55 mm rain.

<Hurstpierpoint> (W Sussex): 26.7 mm rain fell in a thunderstorm.

<Brighton>: Thunder occurred between 11.00 and 13.50 giving 29.5 mm rain.

**1 Aug 1998**

**COL**

<East Dean> (East Sussex): 23 mm rain in 30 minutes.

<Eastbourne> (E Sussex): The observer station missed the torrential rain just 3 miles inland from 09.30 to 11.00 which flooded <Polegate> and <Lower Willingdon>.

<Boughton><Winchelsea>: 28.2 mm fell in a thunderstorm with 18 mm in the first 30 minutes.

**29 May 1999**

**COL**

<Vernham Dean> (Hants): 17.3 mm rain fell in 15 minutes causing local flooding and stones and mud washed from hillsides on to roads

**1 Jun 1999**

**COL**

<Middleton nr Freshwater> (IoW): In an overnight storm from 22.30 on 1<sup>st</sup> to 01.30 on 2<sup>nd</sup> the rainfall was 72 mm.

<Shide> (IoW): In a thunderstorm 25.4 mm fell in 55 minutes.

<Southampton>: there had been flooding damage.

<Lymington> (Hants) Daily rainfall 49.5 mm

<Hurstpierpoint> (W sussex): 24.4 mm fell in an early morning thunderstorm (04.14 to 06.00 on 2<sup>nd</sup>).

<Hove>: 30.3 mm in 2,2 hours.

<b>2 Jun 1999</b>		<Lewes>: Hail 25 mm in diameter reported at 02.30
<b>COL</b>		<Isle of Wight>: Flooding of roads and homes occurred throughout the island after torrential bursts of rain. A newspaper reported marble sized hail in Ryde and Seaviews areas.
<b>5 Jul 1999</b>	<b>COL</b>	<Andover> (Hants): Shops, roads and offices were flooded with up to 2 to 3 inches of rain in approximately 2 hours
<b>7 Aug 1999</b>		<Hurstpierpoint> (W Sussex): 35.4 mm fell mostly between 07.15 and 08.40 on 8 <sup>th</sup> .
<b>COL</b>		<Brighton>: In a thunderstorm early on 8 <sup>th</sup> 34.0 mm fell causing flooding in Brighton, Hove and Portslade.
<b>17 Aug 1999</b>		<Hastings>: With a daily rainfall of 31.5 mm flooding was reported in the town centre.
<b>COL</b>		<Eastbourne> (E Sussex): A daily rainfall of 34.2 mm
<b>20 Sep 1999</b>	No thunder reported	
<b>COL</b>	Daily rainfall	
	Hurstpierpoint 54.4 mm	
	Hove 35.8 mm	
<b>22 Sep 1999</b>	Thunder widely reported	<Guernsey><Rocquaine>: 46.6 mm daily rain with 40 mm in 50 minutes.
<b>COL</b>		
<b>24 Sep 1999</b>	Thunder widely reported	<Dover>: A funnel cloud was observed during a thunderstorm with a squall of hailstones 13 to 14 mm in diameter.
<b>COL</b>		<Wooton><Newport><Cowes> (IoW): Thunderstorms caused knee deep water and flooding in these towns. (In Portsmouth just 2.2 mm fell).
<b>6 May 2000</b>		<Cowfold> <Southwater> Heavy rain with hail caused flooding.
<b>COL</b>		
<b>4 Jul 2000</b>		Thunderstorms caused flooding in Kent, Surrey, Sussex and Hampshire. At <Midhurst> in Sussex 96 mm fell mostly in less than 6 hours.
<b>Eden (2008)</b>		
<b>15/16 Sep</b>		<Portsmouth>: Over 100 homes were flooded.
<b>2000 Eden</b>		<Walderton> (Sussex): 84 mm of rain fell
<b>(2008)</b>		
<b>12 Oct 2000</b>	Flash flood?	People across Sussex woke to severe flooding. The River Ouse broke its banks and both Lewes and Uckfield faced days of work and costs of millions. In total 600 homes and 200 businesses were affected.
<b>BBC, Daily</b>		
<b>Mail 13 Oct</b>		<Uckfield>: Inshore lifeboats were used in the HighStreet the River <<Uck>> usually insignificant turned into a

		<p>150 yard wide torrent. It wrecked businesses and homes of hundreds of people. A man was carried away by the flood outside his house and was rescued with difficulty. A dozen cars at the Rover Garage were wrecked. The plate glass windows of the Somerfield supermarket were smashed in by a tidal wave. A bookshop had its front window washed in. Most of his £30,000 stock of books was carried off to the sea. The cock and Bull pub was washed through with 3 feet of water.</p>
<p><b>4 Jul 2001</b> COL</p>		<p>&lt;Lewes&gt;: the tow was devastated when the River &lt;&lt;ouse&gt;&gt; burst its banks. Harveys Brewery was submerged under 20 feet of water and staff had to be carried to safety as beer barrels floated around outside. &lt;Chichester&gt;: Thunderstorms resulted in flooding.</p>
<p><b>10 Aug 2002</b> COL</p>		<p>&lt;Hurstpierpoint&gt; (W Sussex): In a thunderstorm 19.6 mm fell in 20 minutes causing local flooding. &lt;Worthing&gt;: Approximately 51 mm fell in 2 hours leading to local flooding.</p>
<p><b>9 Sep 2002</b> COL</p>	<p>Four people died in SE England in accidents that were possibly weather related.</p>	<p>&lt;Isle of Wight&gt;: 50 mm rain was recorded in just one hour. &lt;Porchester&gt;: 31 mm fell between 13.30 and 18.00 with 13.2 in 30 minutes. A pub was reported flooded. &lt;Portsmouth&gt;: Over 16.0 mm fell in 20 minutes at the University, leading to localised flooding. &lt;Lymington&gt;: daily rainfall was 40.1 mm.</p>
<p><b>2 Jun 2003</b> COL</p>	<p>There were widespread thunderstorms before midmorning across E and SE England; these steadily moved east</p>	<p>&lt;St Leonards&gt;: 60mm was reported falling at St Leonards (East Sussex); flash flooding was reported in some areas. &lt;Galleywood&gt;: It reported moderate to torrential rain during the early morning, which was accompanied by continuous thunder and lightning (6.8mm of rain fell within 10 minutes).</p>
<p><b>10 May 2004</b> COL</p>		<p>&lt;Maidstone&gt;: Local thunderstorms created some flash flooding in Maidstone and more especially in the &lt;Tenterden&gt;/&lt;Ashford&gt; area with some local roads in Tenterden impassable due to run-off from fields after 1600GMT. Other places with thunder in SE England stretched from Wiltshire and the Isle of Wight to Kent.</p>
<p><b>20 May 2004</b> COL</p>	<p>In the late afternoon and evening there were thunderstorms from E Hampshire to Kent</p>	<p>&lt;Shoreham&gt;&gt; There were reports of 15mm of rain in about two hours. &lt;Hurstpierpoint&gt;: A major thunderstorm occurred with 42.3mm falling mostly between 1730h and 1930h, which made it the wettest day in May in records from 1951. The torrential rain caused widespread flooding in Mid-Sussex, especially in &lt;Burgess Hill&gt;. The observer estimated that around 30mm fell in the hour from 1815h and at its peak as much as 12-15mm could have fallen in 15-20 minutes. It was the most dramatic thunderstorm here since 45.8mm fell over a similar time on 6.8.1981.</p>
<p><b>17 Jul 2004</b></p>	<p>Sferics were reported from</p>	<p>&lt;Dover&gt;: Large hail diameters were reported at Dover (3cm) and &lt;Sandgate&gt; (4cm).</p>

<b>COL</b>	the Isle of Wight to Norfolk in late morning, and these moved E (reaching Kent by mid-afternoon) as the day progressed.	
<b>5 Aug 2004</b>		<Fleet> <Ansell's Farm> (near Farnborough): A thunderstorm produced 48.9 mm in 76 minutes
<b>COL</b>		
<b>29 Jun 2005</b>		<Bournemouth> <Westbourne>: There was a violent thunderstorm during 1610-1725h; heavy rain led to roads being temporarily flooded and the Bourne stream burst its banks leading to flooding of the Lower Pleasure Gardens.
<b>COL</b>		
<b>19 Aug 2005</b>	Across England rain was heavy and thundery in places at first.	<Gosport>: There was some flooding in Gosport.
<b>COL</b>		<Portsmouth>: At the university 10 mm fell in 10 minutes and yielded a total of 27.4 mm in a little over 3 hours.
		<Portchester>: Severe thunderstorm with torrential rain giving 30.2mm during 0430h-0500h and a total of 42.8mm in the hour starting 0430h, causing severe local flooding. The total fall for the day of 49.8mm was the greatest August daily fall on record (1983).
		<Shide>: In the early hours a thunderstorm gave torrential rain for about 20 minutes and a spectacular lightning display. It accounted for about 54% of the month's rainfall and gave flash flooding locally.
		<Hove>: 25.5mm of rain fell in 35 minutes between 0750GMT and 0825GMT.
<b>7 Aug 2006</b>	Eastbourne DR 38.9 mm	<Eastbourne>: East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service said it received more than 100 calls for help from shops, restaurants and other businesses in Eastbourne as people were reported to be knee-deep in sewage after flash flooding.
<b>COL</b>		
<b>12 Aug 2006</b>	Rain persisted for most of the day with sferics in Essex and Kent around dawn. The rain was heavy in places;	<Faversham>: The Met Office quoted an unofficial rainfall report of over 50mm by early evening at Faversham, 31.4mm of which fell in less than one hour.
<b>COL</b>		
<b>23 Aug 2006</b>	Eastbourne 32.8 mm DR	
<b>COL</b>		
<b>14 Sep 2006</b>		<Portsmouth>: At the university heavy rainfall during the early hours of the 14th (attributed to the 13th). 38.6mm of rain fell between 2200GMT/13th and 0800GMT/14th. Of this 25.2mm fell in an hour 0700-0800 GMT coinciding with the morning rush hour and causing traffic congestion and school closures in the Portsmouth area.
<b>COL</b>		

**19 Jun 2007**  
**COL**

There was flooding across parts of Kent, Sussex and Berkshire, and also in the Midlands.

**23 Jun 2007**  
**COL**

**20 Jul 2007**  
**COL**

For the third month running the weather was unsettled and July was a cool, wet month.

**3 Aug 2008**  
**COL**

A cold front with shallow waves running along it became slow moving near the island for several hours. [Thunder was not reported]

**12 Sep 2008**  
**COL**

**7 Jul 2009**  
**COL, CBHE**  
**(Daily Mail 8 Jul)**

Overnight rain and showers, thundery in places, affected many areas. In S England some heavy rain caused flooding during the morning,

<Portchester>: 25mm of rain in 30 minutes 0715-0745h caused some local flooding.

<Manston>: Almost 50mm of rain fell in just an hour at Manston, while in E Berkshire 27mm of rain fell

<West Totton>: A severe storm occurred between 1730h and 1745h with 14.5mm of rain in less than 15 minutes at a rate of 175mm/h. Pictures of the lightning over Fawley Refinery featured in many papers next day.

<Birdham<Chichester>: 36.3mm made this the wettest June day on record (1981). There was a severe thunderstorm 1215-1310GMT with torrential downpours and 30mm fell in 30 minutes.

<Hurstpierpoint>: Between 0530h and 0930h on the 20th 32.6mm fell but, a little further to the north, the totals were up to 53mm. This caused serious flooding in <Haywards Heath> and <East Grinstead>.

<Horsham>: A thunderstorm accompanied by torrential rain began at 0902h. Only a few cloud to cloud lightning discharges were seen accompanied by rumbles of thunder. The storm cleared by 0845h to the NW but moderate/heavy rain continued finally clearing by 1030h. Total rainfall up to 0900h/20th was 41.4mm. Hourly Rainfall amounts - 0600-0700h 2.8mm, 0700-0800h 15.6mm, 0800-0900h 20.2mm, 0900- 1000h 11.0mm.

<Jersey>: There was considerable variation in the total rainfalls reported over the island with provisional figures from official stations as follows: Maison St. Louis – 42.3mm Jersey Airport – 71.2mm Howard Davis Farm – 65.0mm. At the Airport, where records started in 1951, it was the wettest day on record. The previous wettest day was 6 July 1969 when 62.3mm was reported. Analysis of yesterday's Airport rainfall chart shows the heaviest rain fell between mid afternoon and early evening. A total of 21mm was recorded between 4 and 5pm and almost 58mm in the 4 hours from 3pm to 7pm. The long-term average rainfall at the Airport for the whole of August is 42.7mm. The lower total of 42.3mm at Maison St. Louis made it the wettest day at the station since 11 October 2004. Several unofficial totals have been notified to the Met Department, including 78mm in St. Lawrence and nearly 71mm in St. John, suggesting that the northern parishes were worst affected.

<Ventnor>: Thunderstorms affected the Isle of Wight during the early afternoon (1230-1430GMT), accompanied by local torrential downpours. The Isle of Wight County Press reported flash floods and power interruptions from central Wight, but although thunder could be heard in Ventnor, the rain stayed to the north of St Boniface Down (240m) and not a drop fell at the Botanic Gardens.

<Hastings>: Several roads in an East Sussex town were left under water after heavy rain fell in the early hours; emergency services said they responded to a number of calls in the Hollington area of Hastings and <St Leonards>. Reports spoke of 91-115mm of rain falling here in 24 hours.

CBHE Notes: <Hastings> in East Sussex suffered the most, with around three and a half inches(91mm) falling on

particularly in Sussex.

the town centre in the early hours, and around 105mm, or just over four inches, swamping nearby <St Leonards>. Those readings are the highest since records began in 1865, and broke the previous Hastings record of 61mm within 24 hours on August 18, 1952.

<Steyping>(North of Worthing): Violent thundery rain 2-4 miles to NE of this site at 1700h, probably 25mm in a half hour and still continuing. This storm may have been the origin of the one which later hit Hastings depositing a reported 113mm in four hours. Manhole covers lifted at <Rottingdean>.

<East Preston>: At 1400h there was a severe thunderstorm with torrential rain which lasted for 30 minutes. The roads between East Preston and Arundel were flooded for a time and in places visibility was reduced to 50 metres.

**6 Aug 2009**

**COL**

<Portchester> A thunderstorm dropped 25.4mm of rain in 30 minutes at 0245h.

**4 Aug 2010**

**COL**

As a broad trough of low pressure crossed the area, a crop of thunderstorms developed over much of southeastern England in the afternoon, with some lively storms, very heavy rain and hail in various districts.

<Haywards Heath> (Sussex): The area affected was bounded by Wiltshire and Dorset in the west across to Essex – but missing most of London. 48mm fell at Haywards Heath (40mm in one hour). However Hurstpierpoint had only 8.1 mm 9 km away.

<East Preston>: At 1600h there was a severe thunderstorm with hail lasting for approximately 30 minutes with the rainfall amounting to 25.1mm.

**22 Aug 2010**

**COL**

Winchester DR 32.1 mm  
Hurstpierpoint DR 36.5 mm  
Birdham 48.0 mm

<Ventnor>: It was the wettest day since 27 May 2007. The greatest intensity came with 18mm falling in one hour ending 2300GMT. Ventnor Park recorded slightly more, the observer (Mike Wood) measuring 50.2mm.

<Birdham>: A good proportion of the daily total of 48 mm fell in the period 2230-0000h.

**26 Aug 2010**

**COL**

<Jersey>: There was flooding in Jersey on the afternoon, with up to 50mm of rain falling in three hours. The daily totals in Jersey for the 26th were:

Jersey Airport	31.9mm,
Queens Valley	45.5mm,
Maison St. Louis	46.6mm,
St. Catherine	49.2mm,
Howard Davis Farm	35.5mm,
Handois Reservoir	35.0mm,

La Sergenté 34.3mm,  
Millbrook Reservoir 39.2mm,  
Five Oaks (private) 50.6mm,  
Augrès 46.9mm,  
Le Bourg (private) 60.1mm,  
Grands Vaux 52.7mm,  
Portelet (private) about 36mm  
Guernsey Airport 7.7mm  
Carrefour/Clercq, 50.8mm of

**20 Apr 2012**

**COL**

<Thatcham>: Hail 1005-1110 GMT. Individual hail as large as 18 mm diameter. Garden had turned white with hail drifting up to 10 cm deep.

**29 Jul 2013**

**COL**

<Jersey>: A storm moving in from the Brest peninsula caused lightning damage and flash flooding on Jersey.

**24 Aug 2013**

**COL**

Overnight rainfall was widespread across the UK with some heavy falls in E England due to a wave depression close to the SE and these continued during the day.

<Littlehampton><Bognor Regis>: Flash flooding has hit homes Here in West Sussex following heavy rainfall, while a family had to be rescued from their sinking car after it became trapped in flood water as it was being driven under a railway bridge in Essex.

**29 Apr 2014**

**COL**

<Mottisfont> (W of Winchester) A violent thunderstorm hit Mottisfont where 25 mm rainfall was recorded in less than one hour. Flash flooding turned roads into rivers. One road in the village was severely damaged and Hampshire County Council placed a 21 day closure on it because the tarmac surface lifted and was washed away in places. Huge stones were washed from fields onto other roads in the village. My own garden was even underwater for a time and the River <<Dun>> burst its banks at nearby <Dunbridge>. The intensity of the electrical storm was very localised because although there was some thunder and rain six miles away at Romsey, it was nothing like that experienced at Mottisfont and nearby villages of <Lockerley> and <Dean> on the Hampshire /Wiltshire border.

**19 Jul 2014**

**COL**

<St. Peter Port> (Guernsey) had rainfall totals approaching 30 mm. More than 25 mm were recorded in 20 minutes up to midday at this site. Not surprisingly this caused flooding in several places but other stations on Guernsey saw very little rain.

<b>20 Jul 2014</b> <b>COL</b>	Main flooding from thunderstorms was in Essex.	<Sittingbourne>, <Northfleet> and <Gravesend> in Kent were among the places flooded.
<b>28 Jul 2014</b>		<Brighton><Hove>: Storms broke over West Sussex with flooding and where there was also heavy hail. 37mm in an hour occurred at Isfield, near Brighton.
<b>29 Jul 2014</b> <b>Manchester Evening News</b> <b>29 Jul</b>		Hail and thunderstorms brought travel disruption to parts of Britain especially in the southeast. Firefighters rescued people from homes and cars hit by floods. The lightning hit an electricity sub-station near Hove in Sussex, causing power to the coastal rail route to be cut, according to a Network Rail spokeswoman. London Fire Brigade rescued two women from a car which got stuck in flood water. Another two people were rescued from a stranded car in Harrow, the fire service said.
<b>10 Oct 2014</b> <b>COL</b>	Areas affected by thunderstorms included some a persistent track across West and East Sussex, south and east Surrey, mid and north Kent.	<Brighton>: There was flooding in the Brighton area.
<b>13 Aug 2015</b> <b>COL</b>	There was thunderstorm activity in the southeast during the morning, especially over Kent	<p>&lt;Felpham&gt; (West Sussex) and near &lt;Ashford&gt; (Kent): Houses were damaged by lightning , and roads, and some properties, were flooded in parts of both counties.</p> <p>&lt;Gatwick&gt;: A plane was struck by lightning as it approached Gatwick from Guernsey; it landed safely.</p> <p>&lt;Eastbourne&gt; (Downside): Two violent thunderstorms gave 61.0 mm of rain in ten hours.</p> <p>&lt;Appledore&gt; (near Ashford): Early thunderstorms were followed by further storms at 1300 h, again with very heavy rain. There was localised flooding with many roads temporarily impassable. Flooding was more serious at &lt;Eastbourne&gt; and in &lt;New Romney&gt;, where the Fire Brigade was required to pump water from streets and homes. This is easily the highest daily rainfall in the 5 years I have been at Appledore</p> <p>&lt;Lymington&gt; (Hants): 31.3 mm of rain fell in 3 hours, of which possibly 25 mm fell in 60 minutes and 20 mm in 30 minutes.</p> <p>&lt;Mottisfont&gt; (W of Winchester): A violent electrical storm hit Mottisfont and lasted for nearly three hours. Thunder and lightning was constant and the storm produced torrential rain with a total of 28.8 mm recorded. It led to flash flooding on roads around the village and some tree branches laden with water crashed to the ground. No reports of lightning damage were reported in the area.</p> <p>&lt;Hurstpierpoint&gt; (W Sussex): Thunder on six days, which has only been exceeded by seven days in 1980 since</p>
<b>26 Aug 2015</b> <b>COL</b>		
<b>16 Jun 2016</b> <b>COL</b>		
<b>17 Jun 2016</b>		



<b>COL</b>		1951. Small hail on 17th and 25th. Several major thunderstorms between 16th and 25th. Especially: 17th, 21.5 mm of rain between 1405 and 1435 GMT;
<b>23 Jun 2016</b>		<Horsham>: The AWS raingauge logged 20.4 mm in the hour 0000-0100GMT/23rd
<b>COL</b>		
<b>16 Sep 2016</b>		<Bournemouth>: Serious flooding occurred in the Bournemouth area.
<b>COL</b>		
<b>19 May 2017</b>		<Winchester>: A mid--afternoon thunderstorm with hail which covered the ground generally here to about 2.5 cm depth. The hail also stripped leaves from young tomato plants, made holes in water lily leaves and stripped young leaves from trees. The hail remained on the ground for several hours after the storm.
<b>COL</b>		
<b>22 Jun 2017</b>		Isle of Wight>: A thundery outbreak began to the south of the Isle of Wight and crossed Sussex, south and east Surrey and Kent in the late morning. A shop sign was damaged by lightning at Shanklin, and buildings were hit at Herne Bay, Gravesend and Sittingbourne.
<b>COL</b>		<Bognor Regis>: Hailstones of up to 14mm diameter were reported near Bognor Regis.
<b>18 Jul 2017</b>		<Winchester>: Thunderstorms occurred overnight 18th-19th; they were violent and overhead in the early hours of the 19th and gave a rainfall total of 36.3 mm.
<b>COL</b>		
<b>28 May 2018</b>		<Steyning> (10 Km N of Worthing): 25.3 mm in about 32 minutes, the shortest time 25 mm has been recorded here. Storm developed from nothing at 1315 h near Plumpton and grew explosively and moved west.
<b>29 May 2018</b>		<Appledore> (near Ashford): Thunder heard during periods of heavy rain in early and late morning, and early afternoon. The whole day was gloomy and overcast. 7.2 mm rainfall was recorded here, much less than the 35+ mm reported from further west (e.g. Sevenoaks and Edenbridge).
<b>COL</b>		
<b>10 Aug 2018</b>		<Portsmouth>: The University reported localised flooding as a result of 33.8 mm of rain, most falling between 1330 and 1630 GMT. This appeared to be the result of a sea-breeze convergence zone forming over the coast in the light NW flow.
<b>COL</b>		
<b>18 Jun 2019</b>	An outbreak of thundery weather passed through a zone of southeast England bounded by Eastbourne and Hastings, just east of Tunbridge Wells and just west of Ashford, east of Maidstone	<Lenham> (northwest of Ashford): There was a narrow zone of very heavy rain, with 42 mm reported here, and very frequent thunder and lightning - with a not unreasonable estimate of 1000 flashes in an hour over Eastbourne. Localised flooding and power cuts were reported.
<b>COL</b>		

and west of Canterbury,  
across Sheppey and Grain,  
then east Essex and the  
Suffolk and east Norfolk  
coasts and out to sea by  
daybreak.