HISTORY GROUP NEWSLETTER

News, views and a miscellany published by the Royal Meteorological Society's Special Interest Group for the History of Meteorology and Physical Oceanography

Issue No. 1, 2022 **May 2022**

News

Julian Mayes, Secretary / Newsletter editor

News of Members

Welcome to new members - Adam Barber, Dan Harris, John Kings, Terrence Nathan, David Schultz, John Starr, Dan Suri and Martin Young.

We were sorry to hear of the death of Brian Giles, formerly of the University of Birmingham. He co-organised (with Joan Kenworthy) the conference on Observatories and Climatological Research in 1991 and two conferences on weather and World War Two in the late 1980s. An obituary appears on page 7.

Data rescue news – *Rain Rescue* and *Weather Rescue at Sea* projects

Data rescue is the transcribing and digitisation of historic hand-written records. Established for several years as a means of discovering data held in ship's logs, it was applied to rainfall records in 2020 in the University of Reading / Met Office *Rainfall Rescue* project. In a notable example of citizen science, it resulted in the extension of national rainfall series back to the early 19th century. This achieved its aims very quickly and in 2021 a new project was inaugurated – *Weather Rescue at Sea*.

Due to the significance and success of data rescue efforts in extending meteorological records, we hope to run a RMetS national meeting on Data Rescue in autumn 2023. This will mark the 40th anniversary of the History Group – details on p. 3.

Further information about *Rainfall Rescue* and *Weather Rescue at Sea* can be read on p. 4.

The *Monthly Weather Review*

The *Monthly Weather Review* celebrates its 150th anniversary this year. The current Chief Editor is Prof. David Schultz of Manchester University. He has co-authored a detailed historical account of the evolution of the journal in Vol. 150, issue 1 (January 2022). It has progressed from being a record of meteorological observations to a major international journal, published first by the U.S. Weather Bureau and since 1974 by the American Meteorological Society.

Schultz, D. M. and S. Potter (2022) Monthly Weather Review at 150 years: Its history, impact and legacy. *Mon. Wea. Rev.*, **150**, 3-57. https://doi.org/10.1175/MWR-D-21-0267.1.
This is a direct link to the article:
https://journals.ametsoc.org/view/journals/mwre/150/1/mwre.150.issue-1.xml

Met Office *Mostly Weather - Hall of Fame* podcast series

The Met Office runs a podcast series called *Mostly Weather*. Within this, several of the discussions focus on famous historical figures in meteorology; these are grouped into a 'Hall of Fame' category. Experts in particular topics are interviewed by a panel that includes our committee member Catherine Ross. Recent subjects include L. F. Richardson, Jule Charney, Luke Howard, Sir Francis Beaufort and James Stagg. They make for very informative listening.
The full list can be seen here
https://soundcloud.com/metofficepodcasts/sets/mostly-weather

RECENT MEETINGS

- **Terrence Nathan on *Picturing the Atmosphere: Photography and the Advancement of Atmospheric Science*, 7th December 2021 at 6pm.**

- **Martin Young on *The evolution of weather forecasting in the UK - the changing role of the forecaster from the pre-computer age to the modern day.* 25th January 2022 at 7pm.**

- **The history of climate science ideas and their applications**
  RMetS National meeting arranged by the RMetS SIG on Climate Change. Chaired by Prof. Chris Folland, member of the History Group's committee.
  This meeting took place on 12th March 2022 at the Army and Navy Club, London.

  A distinguished range of speakers spoke at the meeting, including Prof. Sir Brian Hoskins, Prof. Jo Haigh, Prof. Tim Osborn and Mr David Warrilow, Past President of the RMetS.

  The meeting was the subject of an article in The Times newspaper on 8th May.

FUTURE MEETINGS

Evening virtual meeting 23rd May 2022 7pm. Prof. Jonathan Martin
Chasing a Giant –Reginald Sutcliffe and the Invention of Modern Weather Systems Science

ABSTRACT It could well be argued that modern synoptic-dynamic meteorology was christened by three intellectual advances; 1) the adoption of isobaric coordinates as a means of simplifying the equation of continuity, 2) the development of the quasi-geostrophic system of equations to approximate and simplify the equations of motion, and 3) the formulation of an omega equation that could both qualitatively and quantitatively diagnose regions of upward and downward vertical motions at the cyclone scale as well as explain the ubiquity of the transverse circulations at fronts. Though many eminent thinkers in our field contributed to these developments in the two decades after WW II, all three of them originated before and during the war from aspects of the work of a single scientist – Reginald C. Sutcliffe.

In this talk I will share the experiences I had over the past six years chasing the scientific and personal history of this giant in the field. His life included moments that testify to the great power of inspirational teachers, the horror and waste of war, the inevitable momentum of good ideas and the necessity of broad vision in both human and scientific affairs that leads to the creation of important and successful institutions. I hope to relate a number of interesting stories from Sutcliffe's impactful and interesting life as well as from my personal pursuit of his history.

Speaker details. Jonathan Martin joined the faculty at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1994 after completing his Ph.D. in atmospheric sciences at the University of Washington. His research expertise is in mid-latitude weather systems, and he has authored over 70 scientific papers, as well as the leading textbook on mid-latitude atmospheric dynamics. He recently published a biography of an influential British meteorologist of the mid-20th century –*Reginald*

Sutcliffe and the Invention of Modern Weather Systems Science. He served a 9-year term as Chair of the Department of Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences and was named by the Princeton Review as one of the nation's Top 300 Professors.

To register for this online meeting, please go to
https://www.rmets.org/event/virtual-chasing-giant-reginald-sutcliffe-and-invention-modern-weather-systems-science

History Group visit to Eskdalemuir Observatory.

We are at an early stage of planning a visit to Eskdalemuir Observatory. This may take place in spring 2023 but the date will be confirmed as soon as known.

History Group Autumn meeting 2023 and RMetS National Meeting

Data Rescue – bringing old records to life

The History Group is organising a meeting on Data Rescue as a RMetS National meeting, provisionally September / October 2023. Do let us know if you are working in this field and are interested in contributing to the meeting.

Meetings of associated organisations

Lerwick Observatory centenary commemoration and visit

The delayed celebration of the centenary of Lerwick Observatory takes place on June 7th, an event organised by the Met Office. The History Group was invited to attend and we are delighted that Catherine Ross, Met Office Archivist, will be there, representing the National Met Library and Archive and the History Group. We look forward to hearing from Catherine in the next newsletter.

Challenger 150 - HMS Challenger Conference, London.

The Challenger Society Conference 2022 marks the 150th anniversary of the 4-year voyage of HMS Challenger, the first truly interdisciplinary scientific investigation. The conference will take place in early September 2022 in and around the Natural History Museum in London.

Challenger 150 will be the opportunity to take stock of where we have come in our science, the way we do oceanography, and an opportunity to discuss, imagine and design the future of open, international, collaborative, inclusive and diverse marine science.

Details of the programme and registration information can be found at the following website:

https://www.nhm.ac.uk/our-science/science-events/the-challenger-society-conference-2022-in-london.html

Data rescue – bringing old records to life

What is data rescue? It is the recovery and transcription of hand-written weather observations into computer-readable form. This allows the data to be integrated into climatological data series such as global and national temperature and rainfall series. In doing so, these series can be extended back in time. The improved geographical coverage also assists with the creation of global reanalysis series.

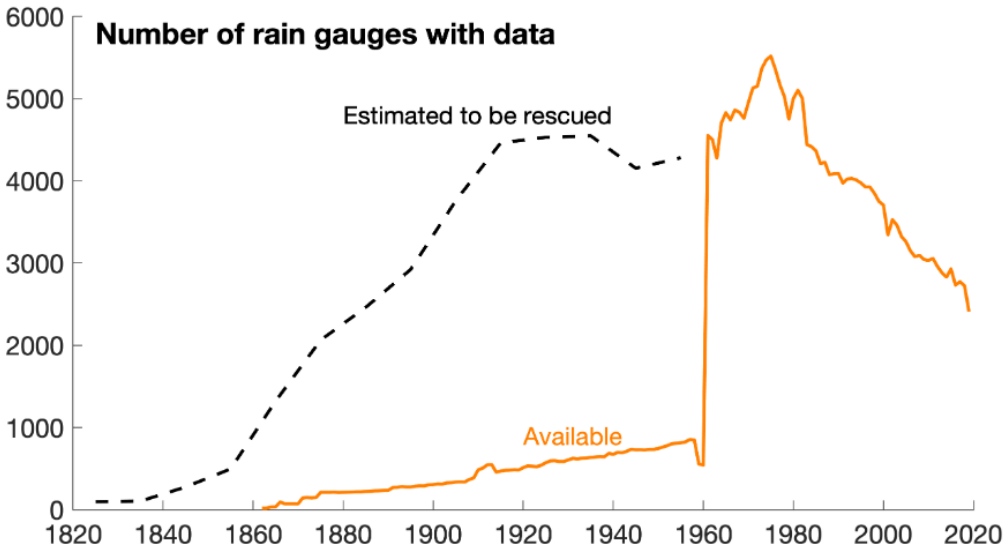
Although data rescue research has been going on for decades (notably in relation to ships logs), the recent advent of 'citizen science' collaboration has brought volunteers on a huge scale together to speed up the reconstruction work instead of relying on researchers alone.

Let us take one example…..

Over 16,000 volunteers in 16 days
66,000 rainfall sheets scanned
5 million hand-written rainfall observations transcribed

These are the accomplishments of the Rainfall Rescue project, run by the University of Reading through 2020, led by Prof. Ed Hawkins, using rainfall data held in the Met Office's archive. The timing is, perhaps, significant; many volunteers were in lockdown available to assist with a worthwhile citizen science activity. Such was the success of the volunteer recruitment, incredibly the project was completed within 16 days.

The hand-written monthly rainfall data being studied spanned the period from 1677 to 1960. After scanning by the National Meteorological Library and Archive in the Met Office, the transcribed data was able to be incorporated into the digitised national rainfall records, allowing this to be extended back from 1862 to 1836. The impact of this work on the availability of rainfall records in the national official rainfall records is shown by the following graph (previous availability of digitised records is shown by the yellow curve).



Met Office

The work of the project is reviewed in a paper by Ed Hawkins et al. (2022) Millions of historical monthly rainfall observations taken in the UK and Ireland rescued by citizen scientists, *Geoscience Data Journal*. https://rmets.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/gdj3.157

This study also provides an appreciation of the work of the British Rainfall Organisation in organising the original rainfall observations and highlights interesting aspects of social history along the way as well.

The above journal also includes articles on data rescue in Ireland (see linked papers and the URL below).

Rainfall Rescue was followed by Weather Rescue at Sea in October 2021. The latter concentrates on ship's logs records from the 1860s and 1870s. This project is still ongoing – details can be read in the link below. It forms the data rescue part of the GloSAT project. This is a research project which has the aim of reconstructing global surface temperatures back to the 1780s. However, the Weather Rescue project spans a variety of weather elements reported in ship's logs.

Sources

https://www.zooniverse.org/projects/edh/rainfall-rescue
https://www.zooniverse.org/projects/p-teleti/weather-rescue-at-sea

Met Office press release on the Rainfall Rescue Project…
https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/about-us/press-office/news/weather-and-climate/2022/rescued-victorian-rainfall-data-released

Dr Catherine Ross's blog on the Rainfall Rescue project…
https://blog.metoffice.gov.uk/2022/03/25/rainfall-rescue-project-bringing-archived-data-back-to-life/

The importance of data rescue from an Irish perspective…
https://www.met.ie/data-rescue

Julian Mayes

News from the National Meteorological Library and Archive

The National Meteorological Library and Archive at the Met Office in Exeter has been open for in-person visits since 1st March 2022 and the response has confirmed the continuing demand for these visits. Enquiries continued through the lockdowns at 120-130 per month.

Digitisation continues of historic records and publications continues; recently this has included the Met Office publications the *Weekly Weather Report*, and most *Daily Aerological Reports*. In addition, Met Office Severe Weather Warnings, space weather forecasts and a selection of synoptic charts are now available (2014-21 for charts, also part of SWW). Some of the early climate data collected by Royal Meteorological Society is now in the ownership of the NMLA. Consequently, climate returns from RMetS stations for 1860-1915 have been added to the Digital Library and Archive which can be found at

https://digital.nmla.metoffice.gov.uk/SO_3161d1d7-b191-4543-8e48-a7761f1ed7ce/.

A Pen Portrait reborn - Richard Bentley, RMetS President, 1905-06

The History Group has published Pen Portraits of Royal Meteorological Society Presidents since it was founded in the early 1980s. A list of Pen Portraits published to date can be found at the end of this newsletter. Subjects are considered for a portrait posthumously.

Earlier this year we were contacted by Mr Richard Emerson of St. Laurence's Parish Church in Upton, Slough. He was researching the life of Richard Bentley for a local history exhibition. The late Michael Field of the History Group had published a Pen Portrait of Bentley in 2009 and in return for this, Richard Emerson supplied us with the photographs shown on this page. Bentley was the third generation of a family of publishers whose clients included Dickens. His father George first settled in Upton and Richard followed; he became a wealthy gentleman of leisure after selling the company. He had the means to build a family home – The Mere, Upton - that stood in 10 acres of grounds and had 35 bedrooms. The photograph on the right shows Richard proudly standing beside the 'Tudorbethan' house. This address became familiar to readers of *British Rainfall* – Richard inherited his father's rainfall observations which continued until his death in 1936. His widow, being somewhat younger (and a first cousin), lived on until 1960 at The Mere, continuing the records. He was one of the most generous supporters of the British Rainfall Organisation; taking his years of RMetS Presidency as examples, in 1905 he donated £4, 1s, 6d and in 1906 the sum increased to £4, 2s, 6d.

The photographs below show the weather station and the house as it appears today – not that far from the M4 just before it approaches west London.

Obituary – Dr Brian D Giles

Brian Giles graduated BA Geography in 1955 followed by an MA (Historical Geography) in 1956. He then spent the next 12 months in Antarctica as a weather observer as part of the International Geophysical Year (1957). Returning back to Birmingham he was a school teacher until his appointment in 1963 as Lecturer in Climatology at the University of Birmingham within the Geography department. It was also at this time that the MSc Applied Meteorology and Climatology degree was started. The University also acquired Edgbaston Observatory enabling the establishment of the Postgraduate School of Applied Meteorology and Climatology. Brian was sole organiser and teacher of the course until additional staff were appointed between 1974 and 1979, though Brian continued as course administrator until about 1995. Brian was subsequently awarded a PhD in 1996 and became Senior Lecturer in Climatology. Over the years Brian both led and taught many undergraduate and postgraduate courses in geography, meteorology and climatology.

I first knew Brian Giles in 1969 whilst I was still at school, and then from 1979 (following my appointment as meteorologist at Edgbaston Observatory). We both had a passion for all things weather and over a period of some 25 years pursued strands of research until Brian's retirement in 2000.

As a co-founder of the History Group in 1983 Brian fostered an active research interest in the history of meteorology in Birmingham enabling many early weather records and diaries dating from the late 18th Century to be located, transcribed and digitised into a coherent Birmingham climatology, research which Brian pursued until recently.

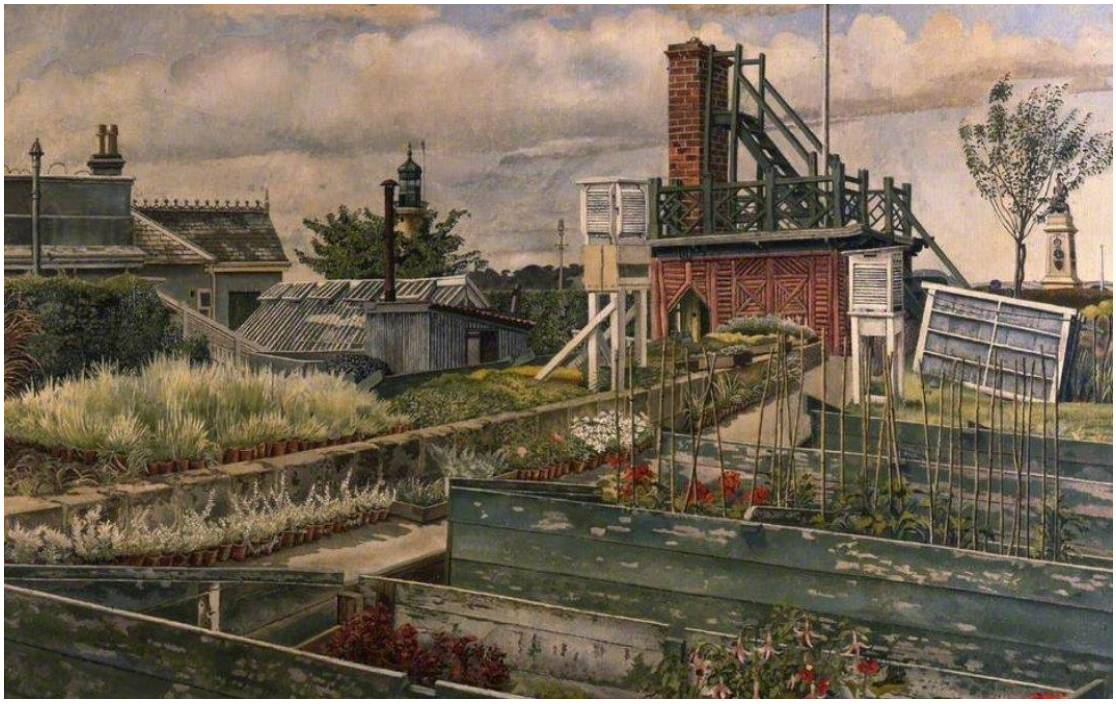
Indeed Brian was truly a *Journeyman Climatologist* (the title of Brian's PhD, 1996). He was an active member of the West Midlands Centre of the Royal Meteorological Society, The Association of British Climatologists, The Association of British-Hellenic Climatologists and The Association of European Climatologists. He was the second editor of The Journal of Climatology later (IJOC). Brian Giles - a loss to both climatology and to teaching.

John Kings, Hon. Research Fellow, University of Birmingham.

History Group members may also recall that Brian was editor of the proceedings of two conferences held at Birmingham in the late 1980s on meteorology and World War Two (RMetS and Univ. of Birmingham, 1987 and 1988). He also collaborated with Miss Joan Kenworthy in co-editing the proceedings of the conference on Observatories and Climatological Research, held at Durham in 1991 (University of Durham, 1994).

A chance discovery in art

I have an interest in historic weather observing sites that (some might claim) is verging on the obsessive. It was therefore with some surprise and interest that while spending yet more hours on twitter one day earlier this year I saw the painting shown below. Straight away we see two Stevenson screens, a brick pillar for a Campbell-Stokes sunshine recorder and possibly a mast for an anemometer or wind vane. Surely these are the most conspicuous features in the painting!



Stanley Spencer's Hoe Garden Nursery *(1955). Image source © ArtUK / Bridgeman Images. Original painting is at The Box (Plymouth City Council).*

The painting is one of the later works of Stanley Spencer and the setting is, of course, Plymouth Hoe. The tweet was from Richard Morris and is reproduced below, demonstrating how an art expert can interpret the same piece of work with somewhat greater eloquence!

> **Richard Morris: Art History in a Tweet** @ahistoryinart · Mar 16
> 'Hoe Garden Nursery.' (1955) Not for Stanley Spencer the great vistas of French regimentation or the lusciousness of the Italian. Here is a view of England of peeling paint and lopsided cold frames. A dogged continuance of the old and the make-do.

Plymouth Hoe climatological station, one of the most long-running of the now-lost observing sites in the UK. The station was opened in 1874, soon coming under the control of the City Council (Wood, 1994). Following the death of the City Meteorologist in 1936 the council made attempts to close the site but were persuaded by the Meteorological Office to keep funding it, highlighting the long record and the fact that it was a climatological rather than a synoptic station (as with nearby Mount Batten). After another closure attempt in 1955, the council finally got

their way in 1980 – Wood comments, 'this appears to have been unopposed by the Meteorological Office' (Wood, 1994, p. 117). Nevertheless, over 100 years of observations were amassed on the same site.

As you can probably guess, it is possible to locate the site by examining the angle of view to Smeaton's Tower (the copy of Eddystone's lighthouse, left background in the painting) and to the Merchant Navy Memorial (right background). The view is to the WSW from the eastern end of The Hoe.

The council nursery and climatological station survive no longer. However, if you examine Google Streetview, the building on the left in the painting still survives and is named on their maps as The Promenade Café Bar.

Sources and acknowledgement

N. L. H. Wood (1994) The Plymouth Hoe Observatory, 1874-1979, *Observatories and Climatological Research*, eds. B. D. Giles and J. M. Kenworthy, Dept. of Geography, University of Durham, 117-129.

I would like to thank Richard Morris for posting the tweet and for his subsequent assistance.

Julian Mayes

PEN PORTRAITS OF PRESIDENTS OF THE ROYAL METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY

As of April 2022

P = published in Weather, with date Obit = date of obituary in *Weather* (recent years only)

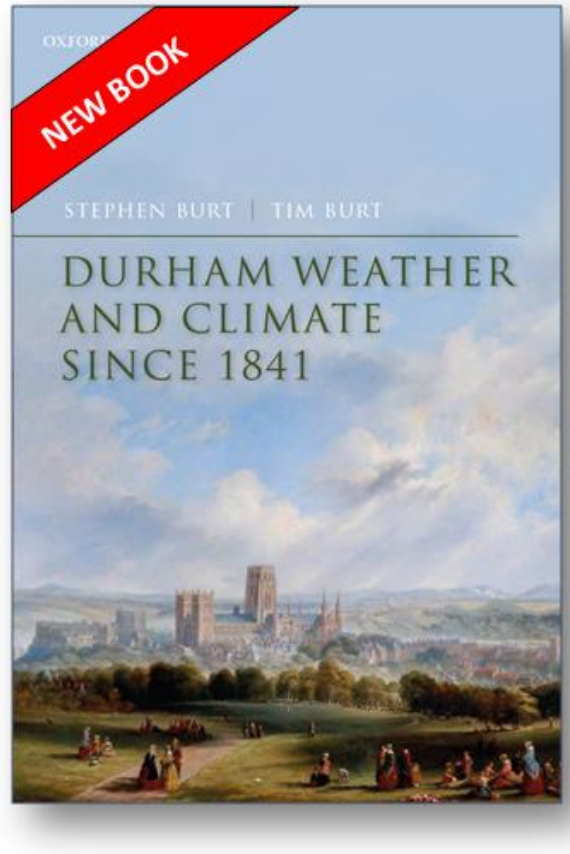
AUTHORS

JCMB	Jim Burton	RASR	Robert Ratcliffe	MBS	Margaret Seward
DEP	David Pedgley	JMW	Malcolm Walker	AM	Anita McConnell
JEI	Jane Insley	WSP	Bill Pike	RH	Richard Hankins
ADL	Andrew Lambert	MEC	Maurice Crewe	FBS	Barry Smith
MF	Michael Field	JK	Joan Kenworthy	CF	Chris Folland
JM	John Mitchell	PR	Peter Read		

INTRODUCTION to the series		JMW	P (9/92)
Samuel Charles Whitbread FRS FRAS	1850-52; 1864	JMW	P (12/97)
George Leach FZS	1853-55	JMW	P (3/01)
John Lee LLD FRS FRAS FSA	1855-57	AM	P (7/96)

Robert Stephenson MP DCL FRS	1857-58	DEP	P (2/95)
Thomas Sopwith FRS FGS	1859-60	MF	P (2/12)
Nathaniel Beardmore MinstCE FRAS FRGS FGS	1863-64	RH	P (9/00)
Robert Dundas Thomson MD CM FRS FRSE	1863-64	RH	P (8/98)
Charles Brooke MA FRS	1865-66	JEI	P (1/98)
James Glaisher FRS FRAS	1867-68	DEP	P (11/95)
Charles Vincent Walker FRS FRAS	1869-70	JMW	P (5/98)
John William Tripe MD MRCS MRCP LSA LM	1871-72	JCMB	P (3/96)
Robert James Mann MD FRSG FRAS	1873-75	JMW	P (1/01)
Henry Storks Eaton MA	1876-77	JMW	P (5/97)
Charles Greaves MinstCE	1878-79	JMW	P (9/01)
George James Symons FRS	1880-81; 1900	JMCB	P (3/93)
Sir John Knox Laughton MA RN FRGS FRAS	1882-83	ADL	P (1/99)
Robert Henry Scott MA DSc FRS	1884-85	JCMB	P (9/94)
William Ellis FRS	1886-87	MF	P (9/10)
William Marcet MD FRS FCS	1888-89	JEI	P (3/97)
Baldwin Latham MinstCE FGS	1890-91	JEI	P (4/97)
Charles Theodore Williams MVO MD FRCP	1892-93; 1900	JMW	P (12/92)
Richard Inwards FRAS	1894-95	JMW	P (8/95)
Edward Mawley VMH	1896-97	AM	P (4/98)
Francis Campbell Bayard LLM	1898-99	DEP	P (10/99)
William Henry Dines FRS	1901-02	WSP	P (11/05)
Captain David Wilson Barker Kt RNR FRSE	1903-04	MBS	P (12/99)
Richard Bentley FLS FRGS FSA	1905-06	MF	P (6/09)
Hugh Robert Mill DSc LLD FRSE	1907-08	DEP	P (4/94)
Lt-Col Henry Mellish CB DL JP FRGS	1909-10	JMW	P (11/96)
Henry Newton Dickson CBE DSc FRSE	1911-12	MBS	P (5/95)
Charles John Philip Cave JP MA FRPS	1913-14; 1924-25	RASR	P (10/93)
Sir Henry George Lyons DSc FRS FGS FRAS	1915-17	JMCB	P (3/98)
Sir William Napier Shaw MA ScD LLD FRS	1918-19	JMCB	P (3/95)
Reginald Hawthorn Hooker MA	1920-21	DEP	P (1/95)

Charles Chree ScD LLD FRS	1922-23	DEP	P (6/94)
Sir Gilbert Thomas Walker CSI ScD MA FRS	1926-27	JMW	P (7/97)
Sir Richard Arman Gregory Bt LLD FRS FinstP	1928-29	RASR	P (7/94)
Rudolf Gustav Karl Lempfert CBE MA FinstP	1930-31	JMCB	P (9/96)
Sydney Chapman MA DSc FRS	1932-33	RASR	P (10/94)
Ernest Gold CB CBE DSO MA FRS	1934-35	MF	P (10/03)
Francis John Welsh Whipple MA ScD FinstP	1936-37	DEP	P (9/93)
Sir Bernard Augustus Keen DSc FinstP FRS	1938-39	RASR	P (11/93)
Sir George Clarke Simpson KCB DSc FRS	1940-41	DEP	P (10/95)
Sir David Brunt KBE MA ScD FRS	1942-44	JMW	P (9/92)
Gordon Manley MA DSc	1944-46	RASR	P (8/93)
Gordon Miller Bourne Dobson CBE DSc FRS	1947-48	MF	P (5/07)
Sir Robert Watson-Watt CB FRS	1949-51	RASR	P (11/92)
Sir Charles William Blyth Normand CIE MA ScD	1951-53	RASR	P (1/93)
Sir Oliver Graham Sutton CBE DSc FRS	1953-55	MF	P (1/09)
Reginald Cockcroft Sutcliffe OBE PhD FRS	1955-57	JMCB	P (8/03)
Percival Albert Sheppard BSc FinstP FRS	1957-59	JMW	P (1/16)
James Martin Stagg CB OBE MA DSc	1959-61	RASR	P (5/94)
Howard Latimer Penman OBE PhD FinstP FRS	1961-63	RASR	P (12/94)
John Stanley Sawyer MA FRS	1963-65	MF	P (6/06)
George David Robinson PhD FinstP	1965-67	MEC	P (2/99)
Frederick Kenneth Hare PhD LLD FRSC	1967-68	JK	P (3/03)
Sir Basil John Mason CB DSc FRS	1968-70	CF, JM	P (3/19) Obit (3/15)
Frank Pasquill DSc FRS	1970-72	FBS	P (4/00)
Raymond Hide ScD FRS	1974-76	CF, PR	P (3/22) Obit (1/17)
Sir John Theodore Houghton DPhil FRS	1976-78		Obit (12/21)
John Lennox Monteith PhD FRS	1978-80		Obit (6/16)
Richard Segar Scorer PhD	1986-88		Obit (10/11)



PRE-PUBLICATION ANNOUNCEMENT

DURHAM WEATHER AND CLIMATE SINCE 1841

by Stephen Burt and Tim Burt

To be published by Oxford University Press, May 2022

576 Pages | 213 colour illustrations

246 x 171 mm | ISBN: 978-0-19-887051-7

Hardback, £35.00

Limited period 30% discount available to RMetS members: order from OUP online with code **ASPROMP8**

https://global.oup.com/academic/product/durham-weather-and-climate-since-1841-9780198870517?q=burt&lang=en&cc=gb

Meteorological records commenced at the Durham University Observatory in 1841 and continue today, the second-longest single-site weather record in England (only the record from Oxford's Radcliffe Observatory is longer). The Department of Geography at Durham University was founded in 1928 by Gordon Manley, who immediately recognised the importance of the early Durham Observatory records, ensured their preservation and continuation, and thereby effectively laid the foundations for this book. This volume, a sister publication to the authors' 2019 comprehensive account of the Oxford record, marks the first publication of the entire 180 year series. It will appeal to all with an interest in British weather history.

Using a rich variety of archive and digital sources, the full history of the Observatory is set out, from its founding by Temple Chevallier in 1840 to today's hourly records from an automatic weather station. After Forewords by the Vice Chancellor of the University and the Chief Executive of the Met Office, the book depicts typical and extreme weather conditions in Durham in each month, season and for calendar years, illustrated throughout with local accounts and photographs of significant weather events in and around north-east England from the eighteenth century to storm *Arwen* in November 2021. Detailed Appendices include the history of the various observers, full site metadata including previously unpublished details of the main instruments, observing practices and periods of record, site averages for 1981-2010 and 1991-2020, and a full month-by-month tabulation of Durham's temperature, rainfall and sunshine records by year from 1843 to 2021. A full reference list, comprehensive index and online database of the entire record completes the volume.

Outreach and feedback

An article 'Spotlight on the History Group' has been accepted by *Weather* and will appear in the print edition imminently. The committee is also writing a follow-up article *on* the resources available at NMLA.

As ever, we welcome further membership enquiries and also offers of submissions to this newsletter!

Members may remember the 'interviews with distinguished meteorologists' series, a collection of oral histories built up over many decades, largely by the History Group. These recordings have now been collated into a series of podcasts making the interviews easily available to all. They can be accessed at the RMetS website at https://www.rmets.org/distinguished-voices. The series continues, with more recordings planned.

If you are already on Twitter, please follow us at #RMetS_HistGroup. If you are not yet on Twitter, you can view tweets at https://twitter.com/RMetS_HistGroup

For Facebook members, our Facebook site continues, maintained by committee member Richard Griffith. This can be found at https://www.facebook.com/RMetSHistoryGroup/

All enquiries please to history@rmets.org

Committee members

Chairman	Vladimir Jankovic	
Secretary	Julian Mayes	(Newsletter editor)
	Chris Folland	
	John Gould	
	Richard Griffith	
	Norman Lynagh	
	Howard Oliver	(Occasional Papers editor)
	Sarah Pankiewicz	(Nat Met Library & Archive)
	Catherine Ross	(Nat Met Library & Archive)
	Peter Rowntree	
	Andrew Russ-Turner	