

RAINFALL IN HARROLD 1989-2012

2012 was officially the wettest year on record for the UK, but was it the wettest year in Harrold also?

I have been keeping rainfall records since 1989, and can confirm that 2012 was by far the wettest year in Harrold in that period, with 36.68 inches (932mm), i.e. more than a yard depth of water fell on us. The next wettest was 2000, with 34.03 inches (864mm). Last year was preceded in 2011 by the third driest year, with just 18.33 inches (466mm). The driest year was 1990, with 17.73 inches (450mm).

A full list of annual rainfall totals would probably bore you, but perhaps the Editor would find space for monthly averages.

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
2.17	2.00	1.51	2.13	2.10	2.13	2.24	2.20	2.39	2.62	2.41	2.43	26.33 (609mm)

March has been significantly drier and October significantly wetter than any other month, but rainfall totals in other months fall in a fairly narrow range of 2.00 to 2.43 inches. The wettest month was August 2010, with 6.57 inches (169mm); the driest was August 2003, with just 1mm of rain.

One final fact before your eyes glaze over: The wettest day in the last 24 years was 17 May 1997, when an afternoon thunderstorm deposited 2.25 inches (57mm) in just 2 hours in our garden next to the Playing Field. This was a highly localised fall; Sharnbrook had no rain at all!

John Saul