

From the President

Spring 2000 - In the swing of things



This is the busy time of the year for your committee, and I am proud of the way that they have been beavering away at all the tasks you set for them at the last AGM.



Subcommittees were formed to look at various issues, and these have all made progress. We have had to make some radical decisions this year (such as turning our Journal into an annual), and we know that some of the members may be upset by these (but we have no complaints so far for the sub-free year which has resulted for regular members). To try and explain how that sub-free year will make the Society "up to date" when our 2001 journal is published, I'm including a short note later in this newsletter.

The idea of a Merit Award for the Met Society has been around for a while. One of the problems has been how the Society can raise appropriate reserves. However a budget has been produced to show that if the current levels of support are sustained then we are indeed in a position to bestow a medal to a worthy practitioner in New Zealand meteorology or climatology. At our last committee meeting the sub-committee's proposal was largely accepted. There are still a few things to check, but we hope to be able to table our proposal on Merit Awards to you for discussion and ratification at the AGM later this year.

And speaking of the AGM, it will be on Tuesday 21 November following day 1 of our conference FRESH PERSPECTIVES at Christchurch University. To encourage all you Christchurch members along (even if you aren't attending the conference, please come), and because it will be our 21<sup>st</sup> AGM, the committee has approved bubbly and cake to accompany our light post-AGM refreshments.

Alex Neale has been working on a history of the Met Society: the first 21 years. We plan to include this as an additional feature in our journal for 2001.

Auckland members of the committee are half-way through evaluating the excellence of weather forecasts found in newspapers. This continues our tradition of, every other year, checking either TV

or Newspapers for excellence. It is the content and presentation that is checked, not the accuracy. We have not yet decided whether any media awards for excellence will be forthcoming this year. Keep posted!

Upon hearing of an intended review of the viability of the School of Earth Sciences at Victoria University, I canvassed committee and member's concerns and combined these into a letter which I sent on your behalf as Met Society President to the Vice Chancellor of Victoria University. A copy was also sent to Royal Society Council, who are also concerned. The committee have agreed that a copy also be posted in this newsletter. So far, no reply. But Al Gore seems to have his finger on the environmental pulse ... he knows that is where the votes are. New Zealand Universities are the only in world that are able and capable of studying NZ weather: its unique combination of sea, wind and mountain. Nowhere else has such variable anticyclones (sometimes mobile, sometimes blocking). And I've heard that the South Pacific has some of the wettest clouds in the world.

There have been some good developments in home-hobby weather stations recently, thanks to one of our members (Brian Hamilton) developing software which will interface with the sort of weather stations that are now becoming available at electrical supply shops. We shall list these stations on our links site as we hear about them, but they may come and go like any home hobby, so please also remember to check the latest. I am hopeful that there will soon be a fad in the installation of web view cams around our scenic hotspots, so that we can all have fun comparing our spot with theirs. It may be a way of watering down the NZ-wide TV temperature game (who's hottest?).

This edition of the newsletter contains our annual accounts (audited), and a guide as to why regular members are having it sub-free next year. Also a NIWA report on winter -- apparently the second warmest on record. And for something a little light-hearted, some stuff I found at alt.talk.weather on cyclone names.



If you would like to see the latest lists of cyclone names, check our links page at <http://metsoc.rsnz.govt.nz>

All the best to you for the rest of the year



Bob McDavitt, President, 10 Sept 2000

From the Committee



Our annual conference this year is at Christchurch University , 20-24 November 2000. Be quick and register now. More information at <http://www.ucar.canterbury.ac.nz/fresh/home.htm>

We will be holding our AGM at the end of the day on Tuesday 21 November. Place still to be determined. Christchurch members are welcome, even if they are not attending the conference. There will be cake and bubbly along with light refreshments after the AGM to celebrate our obtaining 21 years as a Society.

#### Auckland

Next meeting is "How North Shore coped with flash-flooding early this winter" At North Shore Civil Defence HQ , 400 East Coast Road, 7:30pm start.



1. The weather - described by Bob McDavitt, of MetService.
2. The impact - described by Roger Hawthorne, stormwater manager for North Shore City.
3. The clean up - described by David Keay, of North Shore Emergency Services.

Vice President, Bob McDavitt [mcdavitt@met.co.nz](mailto:mcdavitt@met.co.nz)

#### Wellington

On Thursday 2 October, Jamie Shulmeister plans to give a presentation on Paleoclimates.



Vice President, Erick Brenstrum,  
[Erick.Brenstrum@met.co.nz](mailto:Erick.Brenstrum@met.co.nz)

#### Christchurch

Seminar rescheduled for 28 September, by Dr. John Hart of Landcare Research, Lincoln on "Landcare's Greenhouse gas emission measuring in the MacKenzie Basin." At 4pm at Jobberns Room, Geography Building , University of Canterbury. A local member enquired about a possible seminar on the August flooding.

Vice President Dr.Meinhof Kossmann. [kossmann@geog.canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:kossmann@geog.canterbury.ac.nz)

### Wairarapa Weather Watchers

We held a meeting on 17 July 2000, attracting the usual audience of some twenty members. Three Masterton windstorms of recent years were described, that of the afternoon of 18 June 2000 prompting the topic. The others were overnight on 30/31 November 1997, and on 19 November 1996. On all three occasions winds were from the west or north-west. Also prompted by recent blocking situations, this topic was explained

Next meeting will be on Monday 25 September 2000 on the subject of clouds. Why they look different, and what various clouds tell us about the atmosphere and its weather.

Otherwise the past several weeks have been spent waiting for winter, if any, to arrive.

Alex Neale, aanea@winz.co.nz

### METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND INCORPORATED

This statement of accounts to be read in conjunction with the attached notes.

#### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR 12 MONTHS TO 31 JULY 2000

	NOTES	<u>THIS</u>	<u>YEAR</u>	LAST YEAR
<b>INCOME</b>				
Subscriptions	2	10,666		10,569
Interest		684		805
Transfer from Met-Hydro conf.				1,790
Advertising				250
Copyright licensing				35
MetService grant		1,600		1,600
GST		54		
Total Income		<u>13,004</u>		<u>15,049</u>
<b>LESS EXPENITURE</b>				
Journal		2,878		5,048
Newsletter.		4,923		7,724
Meetings		55		165
Royal Society fee		1,250		1,250
Sundry postage, labels etc.		391		284
P 0 Box fee		120		
Media awards				300
Travel expenses				404
Mise		48		
GST				251
Student conf. grants	3	<u>1,400</u>		<u>950</u>
Total expenditure			11,065	<u>16,374</u>
NET PROFIT (LOSS)			1,939	(1,325)

METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND INCORPORATED

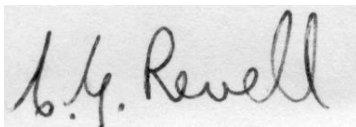
This statement of accounts to be read in conjunction with the attached notes.

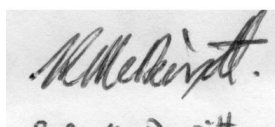
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 JULY 200

	THIS YEAR	LAST YEAR
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Petty Cash	25	25
Current Account00 -BNZ	11,552	7,513
Term Investment -BNZ	5,000	6,225
Student conf. fund -BNZ	6,836	7,972
Income accrued	670	1,926
Sundry Debtors	<u>76</u>	<u>          </u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>24,159</b>	<b>23,661</b>
<b>LESS LIABILITIES</b>		
Expenditure accrued		1,441
<b>NET WORTH</b>	<b><u>24,159</u></b>	<b><u>22,220</u></b>
<b>REPRESENTED BY:</b>		
<b>Accumulated Funds</b>		
Balance at beginning of year	22,220	23,545
Plus excess of income	<u>1,939</u>	<u>(1,325)</u>
<b>TOTAL ACCUMULATED FUNDS</b>	<b><u>24,159</u></b>	<b><u>22,220</u></b>

This statement of accounts to be read in conjunction with the attached notes.

Signed on behalf of the committee

  
B. G. Revell  
Treasurer

  
Bob McDavitt  
President

AUDITORS REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND INC.

I have examined the above Balance Sheet and the Statement of Income and Expenditure together with the finance records of the Society and have obtained all the information and explanations I have required. In my opinion the Balance Sheet and the Income and Expenditure Statement give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Society as at 31 July 2000-09-10

A. I. Tomlinson 29/8/00.

A. I. Tomlinson Date  
Auditor to the Meteorological society of New Zealand Inc.

METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND INC.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2000

1. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accrual accounting is used to match expenses to revenue as appropriate. There has been no change in accounting policies.

2. SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions in arrears have not been taken into account. The amount owing is approximately \$1800.

3. STUDENT GRANTS

This amount was paid from the Student Conference Fund .

4. CURRENT ACCOUNT 00 - BNZ

This cheque account includes \$1790 being proceeds from the 1998 conference which is to pay the cost of producing an Alpha publication.

5. 1999 CONFERENCE ACCOUNT

There is a sum of \$1809 in the account with a bill for about \$800 still to be received. The final balance will be transferred to the Student Conference Fund.

6. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

Journal publication is running one issue behind at a cost of approximately \$2500 per issue.

7. 2000/2001 BUDGET

A budget estimate for the coming year was presented to the committee. This shows that our financial commitments can be met from existing funds but the current account is likely to be exhausted.

A proposed subscription rate for 2001/02 will be presented for consideration at the Annual General Meeting.



Copy of letter sent by our President to Vice Chancellorship of  
Victoria University

Wednesday, August 16, 2000

To Professor Roy Sharp

Acting Vice-Chancellor Victoria University,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Meteorological Society of New Zealand to express our concerns relating to Victoria University's review of the School of Earth Sciences.

The Meteorological Society of New Zealand is an independent New Zealand-wide group of enthusiasts joined together by a common fascination with weather and climate variability. The Society runs meetings for members in a number of city centres, produces a quarterly newsletter and an annual peer-reviewed Journal ("Weather and Climate"), and stages an annual conference. The Society aims to encourage an interest in the atmosphere, weather and climate, particularly as related to the New Zealand region and to foster the exchange of information in meteorology and climatology. You can find more about us on our web site (<http://metsoc.rsnz.govt.nz>)

We would like the review committee to stay mindful of the following points:

- 1) Most of New Zealand's meteorologists and atmospheric scientists are located in Wellington, at NIWA and MetService. Moreover, all of MetService's ab initio meteorologist course is conducted in Wellington, in conjunction with the VUW School of Earth Sciences.
- 2) Victoria University's School of Earth Sciences has, under the guidance of Dr. Jim McGregor, already done the ground work in building a solid relationship with Wellington's Meteorological, Climatological and Oceanographic community. This means the School is well placed to act as a channel for future research funding.
- 3) The future of atmospheric science in the 21st century is very likely to involve dealing with international disasters stemming from floods and droughts. Evidence for this comes from the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) which is a 185-Member United Nations affiliated body that provides authoritative scientific voice on the state and behaviour of the Earth's atmosphere and climate. On the 50th anniversary of the WMO in March 2000, its Secretary General, Professor Godwin O. P. Obasi commented: "It is estimated that by the year 2025,

about two-thirds of the world population may well face moderate to severe water stress compared to one-third at the present time." (<http://www.wmo.ch/web/Press/WMD2000.html>) Floods and droughts are indeed becoming increasingly expensive events, even here in New Zealand. Insurance pay-outs for the recent Waikato River and Lake Wakatipu/Clutha River floods were higher than those for Cyclone BOLA. The economic set-back of the 1997/1998 South Island droughts has been well-voiced. The Foundation for Research Science and Technology FORESIGHT program Strategic Portfolio Output (SPO) on Natural Physical Hazards especially mentions flood and droughts as being worthy of future academic funding (in part thanks to a Met Soc. submission in 1999 <http://metsoc.rsnz.govt.nz/fore.html>). By improving meteorological education and research we hope to improve our understanding and forecasting of floods and droughts. Mitigation may follow?

- 4) It is the studied viewpoint of several of our members that when a student earns a Science Degree at a University, this is not JUST an avenue to employment in the science sector (and thus to the future of NZ as a 'knowledge based society') but also incurs some intrinsic values which are worthy of a much wider appreciation. The acquisition of a diploma in meteorology shows that that the student has demonstrated an ability to think and reason at a very high level; to master highly advanced technical and mathematical skills including advanced computer programming; to assimilate complex and voluminous information and extract the crucial signals from it; and to impart to others a considered judgement as to future developments. The art and craft skills of a meteorologist provide a basis on which most other careers, including in business and management, can be built. So rather than simply allowing retrenchment in science disciplines, Universities should be right out there and strongly advocating the wider values of science courses both to future students and to employers at large. And meteorology ranks very highly as one of the best courses to take in this regard.

On behalf of the Met Society I urge the Review Panel to be mindful of the full potential future value of meteorology within the School of Earth Sciences at VUW. Bob McDavitt President, Met Society of NZ.

Bob McDavitt, Met Soc. President



**Explanation of how our Journals are getting up to date  
And why this means a subscription-free year for regular members.**

	Old Scheme	New Scheme	Paid for?	supplied?	compensation ?
Jan-1998					
Feb-1998	18(1)	V18 (1)	YES	Delivered	none required
Mar-1998				(In Feb 1999)	
Apr-1998				(1 year late)	
May-1998					
Jun-1998					
Jul-1998					
Aug-1998	18(2)	V19 annual	YES	delivered	none required
Sep-1998				As V19	
Oct-1998				In May 2000	
Nov-1998					
Dec-1998					
Jan-1999					
Feb-1999	19(1)		YES	Never Delivered	Set against free sub
Mar-1999					For Aug 2000-July 2001
Apr-1999					
May-1999					
Jun-1999					
Jul-1999					
Aug-1999	19(2)		YES	Never delivered	Set against free sub
Sep-1999					For Aug 2000-July 2001
Oct-1999					
Nov-1999					
Dec-1999					
Jan-2000					
Feb-2000	20(1)	V20 Annual	YES	Delivering Now	None required
Mar-2000				(Sep 2000)	New scheme passed by committee
Apr-2000					
May-2000					
Jun-2000					
Jul-2000					
Aug-2000	20(2)		NO	Never deliver	New scheme already advertised.
Sep-2000					No subs charged.
Oct-2000					So no compensation due.
Nov-2000					
Dec-2000					
Jan-2001					
Feb-2001	21(1)	V21 annual	Make free	Will deliver	Makes up for missing 19(1),19(2)
Mar-2001				(On time !?)	V19(1) and V19(2)
Apr-2001					Also to carry extra item
May-2001					(History of our first 21 yrs)
Jun-2001					
Jul-2001					
Aug-2001	----				
Sep-2001					
Oct-2001					
Nov-2001					
Dec-2001					
Jan-2002					
Feb-2002	V22	V22 annual	Charge for	Deliver	Revised sub to be decided
Mar-2002					At AGM in Nov 2000
Apr-2002					
May-2002					
Jun-2002					
Jul-2002					
Aug-2002					

**Summary.** We were two issues behind. By changing to one issue per year, and giving regular members a subscription-free year (under the old scheme) we are up to date in February 2001.

A letter from Finland, sent to our Circulations Manager in response to receiving some of our publications.

Lohti, Finland, 20<sup>th</sup> June, 2000

Dear Tony Stammers,

I wish to thank you very much for your very interesting publications which I have received some weeks ago to my great pleasure. - Although I, from another direction, should join as a distant member your Society, I should not want to do it quite just now. I trust that you understand my present economical, etc. circumstances being as a retired man. Quite a different matter would be, if any of your members, or another weather enthusiast in NZ, would be willing to write to me about his/her weather interests. But such contacts may not be possible without your paid membership.

I thank you once more and wish you all success in your valuable work in all wide weather interest field from here so distant cold Finland.

Yours sincerely,  
(Aimo Kuovi) Aimo Kuovi

Some light hearted reading from the newsgroup: alt.talk.weather  
Cannot attest to its complete accuracy. Note they mention Hilary in the Atlantic, but I believe Hilary is an EPAC name. \*"Z" names are used in the EPAC, Australia Region and Fiji Region. Oh well, enjoy the humour .... that's what this is about-- (Source: Detroit Free Press, 9/3/00)

"The name game for hurricanes"

Many headline writers were no doubt saddened last month when Hurricane Debby turned into a dud south of Florida. Gone was the chance of a lifetime to splash "Debby does ..." across the front page in places like Daytona. Such an opportunity will not come again for six years under the international system for naming hurricanes.

There are six sets of 23 names from A to Y used in rotation. (Q, U and Z are not used \*). A name is removed from the list only if it is attached to a particularly deadly hurricane. Too many bad memories. For instance, there will never be another "Hurricane Mitch," the deadliest storm of recent years, claiming more than 10,000 lives in central America, nor another "Andrew" (south Florida, 1992), "Hugo," (South Carolina, 1989), or "Joan" (which in 1988 raked Colombia and Venezuela before moving into the Pacific Ocean and becoming "Miriam").

And of course, you will never see the headline, "Debby does Detroit" because we don't get hurricanes in this part of the world. We get blizzards, severe thunderstorms and tornados, none of which get names. "Basically, there are just too many, and they don't last that long," explained Gloria Washington of the National Weather Service. "We average a thousand storms a year that are capable of producing damaging weather of some kind. There have been only a few years when we have gone a period of days without a tornado somewhere.... The severe blizzards are usually just described by the year they occurred." It's just a little something to think about this weekend as summer begins its fast fade into fall and the inevitability of winter. Would you prefer to drive through the nondescript "Blizzard of '01" or snow-blow out of "Bob"? Would you rather be buried or Larry'd? Want to read about a winter storm blanketing the Lower Peninsula, or that "Marilyn does Michigan"? Do headline writers get to vote? The National Hurricane Centre has been naming ocean storms since 1953. The system was adopted not to appease headline writers but to differentiate between storms, which often overlap this time of year, and to minimize mistakes in conversations among forecasters. Only women's names were used until 1979, when gender equity prevailed. The names can be English, French or Spanish. There are separate lists of names for storms that originate in other oceans. Headline writers missed a golden opportunity last August when Hurricane Hilary (just one l) formed in the Atlantic. But she fizzled without hitting land and was, according to the weather service, "reduced to a swirl of low clouds, devoid of deep convection." That's convection, not conviction. But speaking of convictions, or the lack of, Hurricane Bill is on the list for 2003. Maybe that's when he plans to run for the Senate.

If you would like to see the current list of cyclone names around the world, check under cyclones on our links site at <http://metsoc.rsnz.govt.nz>



## NATIONAL CLIMATE SUMMARY - WINTER 2000

2nd WARMEST ON RECORD  
CAPITAL AND CHRISTCHURCH WARMER THAN EVER  
MARKED CONTRASTS IN RAINFALL ACROSS NEW ZEALAND  
VERY SUNNY IN THE SOUTHERN NORTH ISLAND AND BULLER  
MUCH LESS WIND IN WELLINGTON

The country's first winter of the new millennium was the second warmest on record since reliable measurements were established in the 1850s. With a national average temperature of 9.1°C, this winter was up 0.9°C on the 1961 to 1990 average and second only to the winter of 1984, which had an average temperature of 9.4°C. Wellington recorded its highest ever winter mean temperature since 1863 with a temperature of 10.3°C, 1.2°C above the normal temperature for the season, while Christchurch, with a mean temperature of 8.2°C, also had its warmest winter since records began in 1864. The Christchurch figure was 1.3°C above average. Record high winter mean temperatures also occurred at Nelson, Kaikoura, Akaroa, Winchmore and Farewell Spit, while the average at Lincoln was equal to the highest recorded since 1881. Several areas including Auckland, Whangarei, Hamilton, New Plymouth and Tauranga experienced their second warmest winters on record. Mean temperatures were 1.5°C above normal in parts of Auckland, Coromandel, Nelson and Canterbury.

The climatic conditions for the winter period from June to August, especially the warmth, were produced by more frequent highs (anticyclones) east of the Chatham Islands, bringing more north-easterly winds than normal over most of New Zealand. Also, seas were warmer than normal around New Zealand.

The winter also featured marked regional rainfall differences. Record or near record high winter rainfall was measured in parts of Canterbury and the Thames Valley. Rainfall was also above average in some Otago areas. In contrast, it was extremely dry in Gisborne where rainfall was less than half (50 percent of normal), and 50 to 75 percent of normal in north Taranaki and the south of the North Island.

Very sunny conditions featured in Taranaki, King County, Manawatu, Wellington and Buller, but sunshine totals were below average in the eastern Bay of Plenty. There was much less wind in Wellington.



## NATIONAL CLIMATE SUMMARY - WINTER 2000

There were a number of periods of stormy weather, with five heavy rainfall/flood-producing events, four days where high winds caused damage, two tornadoes, and a severe hailstorm. However, there was only one very cold outbreak producing significant snowfalls.

### RECORD WARMTH IN MANY AREAS

It was extremely warm over much of the country, with mean temperatures between 1.0°C and 1.5°C above normal in much of Northland, Auckland, Coromandel, Bay of Plenty, Taranaki, Wellington, Westland, Buller, Nelson, Marlborough and Canterbury. Exceptions were coastal Wairarapa and central Otago where temperatures were near normal.

Extremely high winter mean temperatures were recorded at:

Location	Mean temperature (°C)	Departure from normal (°C)	Year records began	Comments
Whangarei Airport	12.9	+1.2	1968	2nd highest
Owairaka, Auckland	12.5	+1.5	1949	2nd highest
Paeroa	11.3	+1.5	1947	3rd highest
Tauranga Airport	11.5	+1.4	1913	2nd highest
Auckland Airport	12.4	+1.3	1867	2nd highest
Hamilton Airport	10.3	+1.4	1971	2nd highest
New Plymouth Airport	10.9	+1.1	1944	2nd highest
Kelburn, Wellington	10.2	+1.2	1863	Highest
Farewell Spit	11.3	+1.9	1971	Highest
Westport Airport	10.1	+1.1	1937	Equal highest
Hokitika Airport	8.9	+1.1	1863	2nd highest
Nelson Airport	8.9	+1.6	1943	Highest
Kaikoura	9.6	+1.3	1964	Highest
Winchmore	7.5	+1.5	1950	Highest
Christchurch City	8.2	+1.3	1864	Highest
Lincoln	7.9	+1.5	1881	Equal highest
Akaroa	9.3	+1.6	1978	Highest



## NATIONAL CLIMATE SUMMARY - WINTER 2000

### EXTREMELY WET IN PARTS OF CANTERBURY

Winter rainfall was more than 150 percent of normal in parts of Canterbury, and the Thames Valley, and at least 125 percent of normal in Queenstown and areas of the Otago coast.

Near or extremely high winter rainfall was recorded at:

Location	Rainfall (mm)	Percentage of normal	Year records began	Comments
Paeroa	639	158	1914	2nd highest
Timaru Airport	226	184	1957	3rd highest
Tara Hills, Omarama	212	180	1950	Highest

In contrast, rainfall was extremely low in Gisborne with totals less than 50 percent of normal, as well as north Taranaki with 60 percent of normal. It was also drier than normal in the south of the North Island, including Wanganui and Wairarapa, where rainfall was less than 75 percent of normal.

Unusually low winter rainfall was recorded at:

Location	Rainfall (mm)	Percentage of normal	Year records began	Comments
New Plymouth Airport	268	60	1944	3rd lowest
Gisborne Airport	155	44	1905	2nd lowest

### SUNNY IN BULLER AND THE SOUTH AND WEST OF THE NORTH ISLAND

Sunshine totals were well above average in Taranaki, King County, Manawatu, Wellington and Buller, with totals between 120 and 135 percent of normal. It was also sunny in Waikato, Hawke's Bay, and Wairarapa. Lower than normal sunshine totals occurred in the eastern Bay of Plenty, with less than 90 percent of normal hours. Sunshine was near average over the remainder of the country.



## NATIONAL CLIMATE SUMMARY - WINTER 2000

Near or record winter sunshine hours were measured at:

Location	Sunshine (hours)	Percentage of normal	Year records began	Comments
Taumararui	322	121	1947	3rd highest
Palmerston North	400	134	1931	3rd highest
Kelburn, Wellington	436	130	1928	2nd highest
Whakatane Airport	386	83	1957	2nd lowest

### MUCH LESS WIND IN WELLINGTON

Winter produced fewer days with higher wind gusts in the Wellington area. Kelburn recorded 35 days with gusts to at least 59 km/h, 13 days fewer than the normal total of 48 days, and second lowest for winter since records began in 1967.

### EXTREMES

#### *Temperature*

- The lowest air temperature for the winter was  $-9.7^{\circ}\text{C}$ , recorded at both Tara Hills on 7 July and Ophir on the 8th. The highest air temperature for the winter was  $22.3^{\circ}\text{C}$ , recorded at Kaikoura on 27 July.

#### *Tornadoes*

- There were two tornadoes, one in Nelson on 1 June and another in the Bay of Islands on 30 August.

#### *Hailstorm*

- An unusually heavy hailstorm (with some hailstones reported as large as golf-balls) occurred over Auckland's North Shore just before 8pm on 7 June.

#### *Cold snap*

- The only very cold southerly outbreak for the winter affected the country over 11-13 June with high winds, lightning and snow to sea level in many eastern South Island regions. Heavy snowfall occurred on both South and North Island ski-fields. The cold weather was preceded by lightning strikes which cut power in and around Christchurch, and high winds that damaged roofs. Violent thunderstorms also resulted in power cuts on the West Coast.



## NATIONAL CLIMATE SUMMARY - WINTER 2000

### *High winds*

- Wind damage occurred on 4 June, with fallen trees in Auckland and Bay of Plenty, as well as 7 June at Waipu.
- Gale northwesterlies lifted a few roofs in Canterbury on 18 June. Even a few vehicles were overturned, including a 4.5 tonne truck trailer between Chertsey and Rakaia. Northwesterly gales also affected the east of the North Island including Masterton, where a number of trees fell. Property damage was also reported in Napier.
- High winds also affected Taranaki, with fallen trees and roofs damaged about New Plymouth on 4 July.
- Gales buffeted Wellington on 27 July, bringing down power lines, lifting roofs and breaking windows.

### *Floods*

- Surface flooding occurred in the Hutt Valley on 4 June.
- High rainfall and widespread surface flooding occurred in Northland and Auckland on 28-29 June. Emergency services had to handle thousands of calls for assistance.
- High rainfall and widespread surface flooding occurred throughout Coromandel on 2 July.
- Floodwaters were about 20 cm deep in parts of Whangarei on 4 July.
- High rainfall and flooding occurred throughout Canterbury on 18-19 August.

For further information, please contact:

Dr Jim Salinger, NIWA - Auckland, Tel. (09) 375 2053 (Business)  
or (09) 527 3939 (after hours)

or Stuart Burgess, NIWA - Wellington, Tel (04) 386 0569

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Acknowledgment of NIWA as the source is required.

This report is also at [http://www.niwa.cri.nz/climsum\\_win00.html](http://www.niwa.cri.nz/climsum_win00.html)  
Colour graphics of monthly and seasonal rain and temperature anomalies are at <http://www.niwa.cri.nz/ncc/current.html> as a pdf file. These colour maps do not convert well enough to "shades of grey" for us to bring them here, so , instead, the next few pages give MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS.

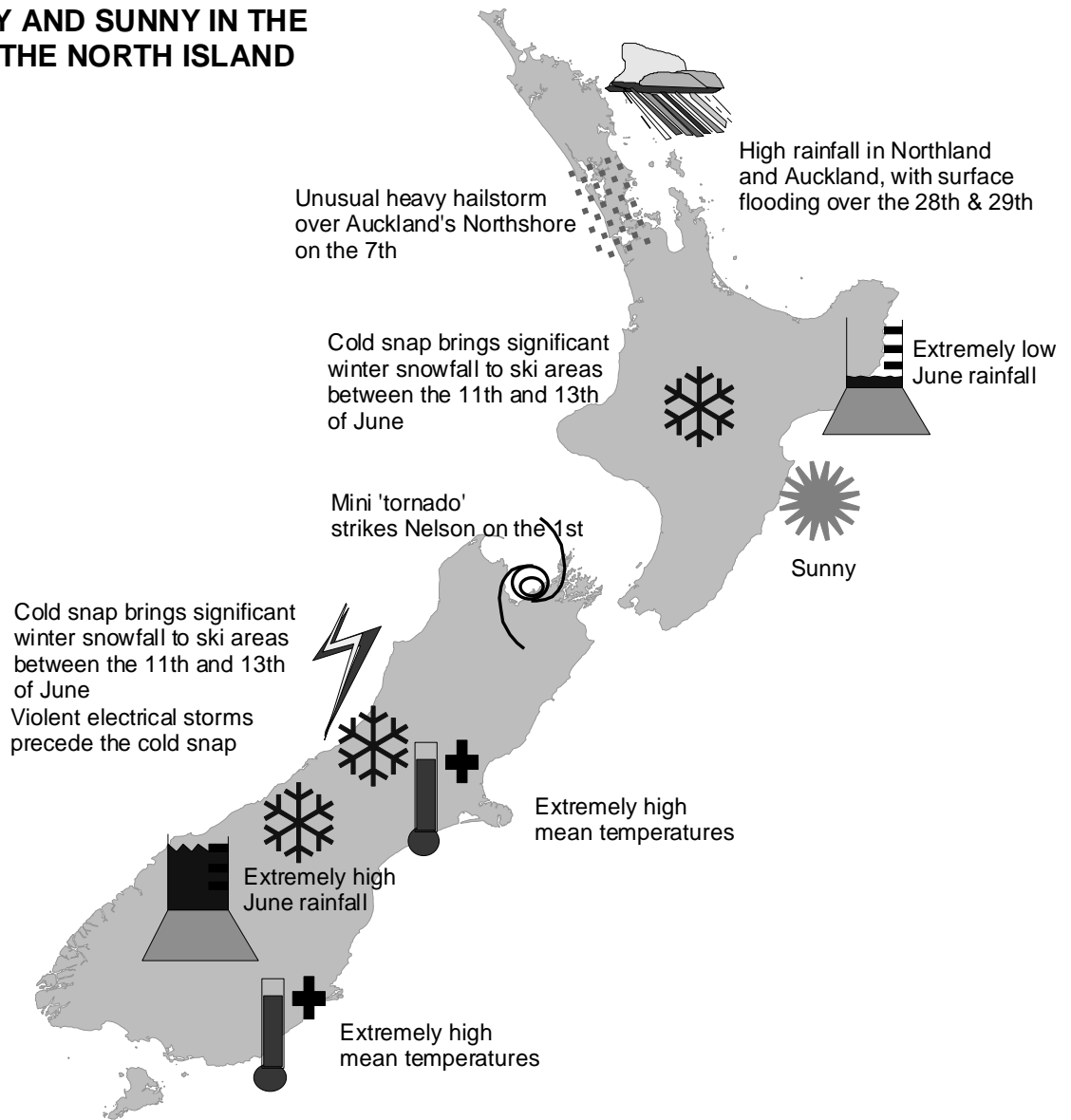


# NIWA JUNE 2000 CLIMATE HIGHLIGHTS

## WARM AGAIN FOR MOST AREAS

## WET IN THE SOUTHWEST OF THE SOUTH ISLAND

## VERY DRY AND SUNNY IN THE EAST OF THE NORTH ISLAND



# NIWA JULY 2000 CLIMATE HIGHLIGHTS

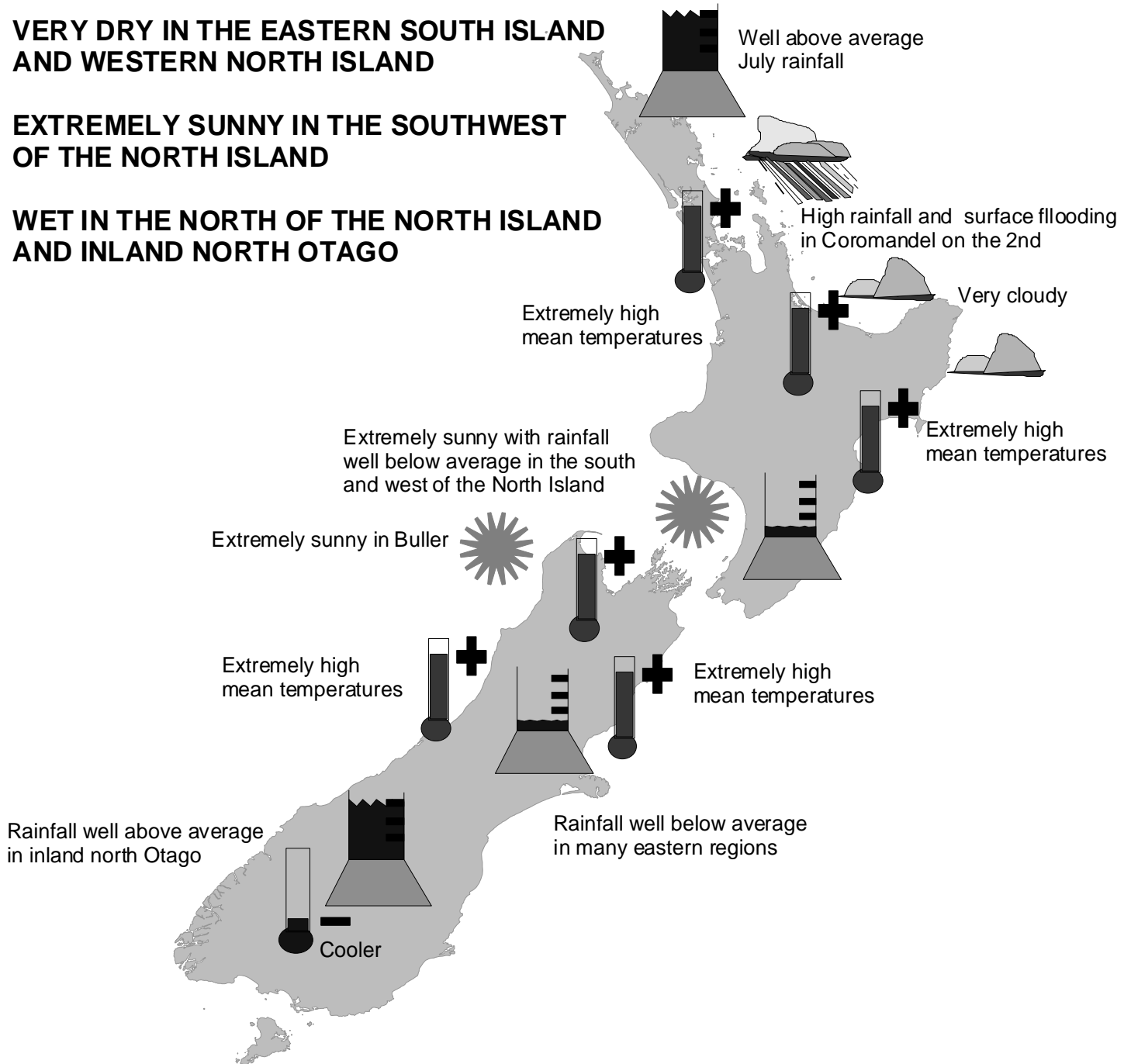
## AN EXTRAORDINARY MONTH

### EXTREMELY WARM IN MANY AREAS

VERY DRY IN THE EASTERN SOUTH ISLAND  
AND WESTERN NORTH ISLAND

EXTREMELY SUNNY IN THE SOUTHWEST  
OF THE NORTH ISLAND

WET IN THE NORTH OF THE NORTH ISLAND  
AND INLAND NORTH OTAGO

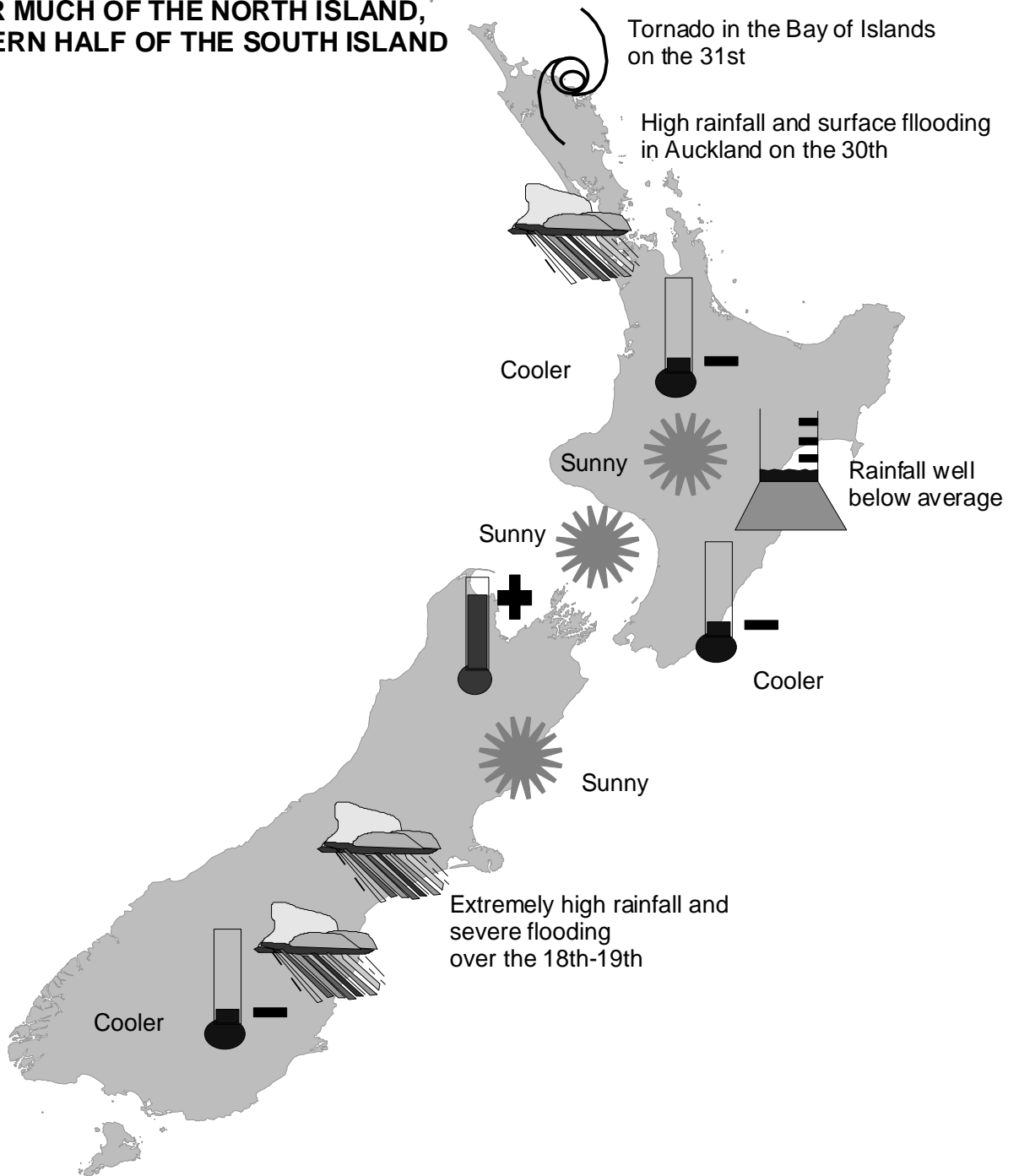


# NIWA AUGUST 2000 CLIMATE HIGHLIGHTS

**DELUGE RESULTS IN HIGH RAINFALL  
AND SEVERE FLOODING IN CANTERBURY**

**VERY DRY IN GISBORNE AND HAWKE'S BAY**

**SUNNY OVER MUCH OF THE NORTH ISLAND,  
AND NORTHERN HALF OF THE SOUTH ISLAND**





## About the Meteorological Society



### What is the Society?

This is a group of people from around New Zealand (and some overseas) who like to share their fascination in weather and its antics.

The Society was inaugurated at a meeting held in Wellington on 11 October 1979. The objects of the Society are to encourage an interest in the atmosphere, weather, and climate, particularly as related to the New Zealand region.

### What does the Society provide?

- Access to a lively committee who are specially elected watch-dogs for any contentious issue involving weather or climate.
- For members in the main centres: An egroup for communications plus organised meetings throughout the year on weather and climate topics.
- A quarterly newsletter full of members news and views plus descriptions of recent significant weather.
- An annual professional journal "Weather and Climate". This provides members access to the latest peer-reviewed thinking in the profession of meteorology. It is accepted internationally as the journal which gives recognition of the value of meteorological and climatological work done in New Zealand. It contains papers of interest to both professional and general readers. It also includes book reviews and explanations of the unusual. Members are invited to send in their own descriptions or photos.
- An annual conference.
- A web site <http://metsoc.rsnz.govt.nz>

### Who can become a member?

Membership is open to all those with an interest in the objects of the society. We are a mix of professionals and amateurs including

- meteorologists
- climatologists and geographers
- hydrologists and ecologists
- yachting enthusiasts and sea-divers
- trampers and mountain climbers



- aviators and glider pilots
- agriculturalists and farmers
- astronomers and cloud-watchers
- professional weather forecasters
- economists and engineers
- weather observers



#### How to Join

Anyone can join who has an interest in the atmosphere, weather and climate. Students are most welcome.

#### Subscription is

- \* For ordinary members \$NZ 30 per year payable 1 Aug.
- \* For institutional members \$NZ 90 per year payable 1 Aug.
- \* Overseas postage add \$NZ5 for surface or \$NZ15 for airmail.

Since we are not geared to accept credit cards, please pay by cheque. Send your orders and/or application forms for membership (with appropriate payment) by post to:

The Secretary,  
Meteorological Society of New Zealand  
P. O. Box 6523,  
Te Aro,  
Wellington,  
New Zealand

Include the following information in your application form:  
"I wish to apply for membership of the Meteorological Society of New Zealand".

1. Your Name and Address (include email).
2. Your interest in meteorology.
3. Your signature (and date).
4. Appropriate payment.



Contributions to the *Newsletter* may be addressed to  
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(Next deadline for articles = 1 December 2000)