WINTER WEATHER REVIEW - ARMIDALE NSW
June-July-August 2016

Winter 2016 was cool to cold, cloudy and wet.
June was cloudy, cold and wet , July was cool and dry, and August was cool and wet.
June and August recorded much higher than average rainfall, June 97.8 mm, August 143.0 mm, while July was drier than normal with 33.6 mm. The total for the three months of 274.4 mm on 33 days was 124 mm higher than the average for the three months, and was the wettest winter since 1952 (291 mm).
The cold winter weather started on 27th May and lasted, with the occasional mild days, for around 14 weeks until 5th September when warmer conditions arrived.
Despite the many cloudy days temperatures overall were well above the average.
Maximum temperatures reached 20.0 degrees or higher on 5 days, and were lower than 10.0 degrees on 10 days.
There were no hailfalls, and no snow apart from a very light fall in South Armidale on 27th June.
Winds were mostly westerlies, and were moderate and gusty in June and July,and light in August.
There were 50 frosts with August being both the frostiest and sunniest month.

Noteworthy events:
4th/5th June - A low pressure system formed over the north-east New South Wales, then moved across to the coastal region bringing heavy rain and flooding in coastal areas and moderate falls further inland. Armidale recorded 43.8 mm for the 48 hours to 9am on the 5th.
9th June - Warm north-westerly winds ahead of a cold front produced unusually mild conditions on the Northern Tablelands. Armidale's maximum temperature of 20.3C was the warmest for the month of June since 7th June 2002 (22.3C).
24th/25th June - A severe cold front brought strong winds, showers and light snow to higher parts of the Northern Tablelands on the 24th. There was no snow in Armidale. Very cold air following the front reduced the maximum temperature on the 25th to 7.7C.
27th June - Very cold air associated with a low pressure trough and cold air in the upper atmosphere brought snow to higher parts of the Northern Tablelands including some very light snow in South Armidale in the evening.
Armidale's maximum temperature for the day was just 3.6C, coldest June day since 22nd June 1949 (2.6C), and coldest day for any month since 4th July 1984 (2.8C).
19th & 20th July - The maximum temperatures of 20.4C on the 19th and 21.2C on the 20th were the highest July temperatures on record from 108 years of records. The previous highest was 20.1C on 28th July 1958 recorded at the post office (reading adjusted to be compatible with current recording site). The unusually warm conditions were caused by warm air from northern Australia being drawn into New South Wales by a low pressure trough.
21st July - The minimum of 14.2C was the highest July minimum since 3rd July 1942 (14.4C).
23rd July - Strong winds swept across the Northern Tablelands in the morning associated with the passing of an intense cold front. Wind speeds at Armidale Airport averaged between 45 and 55 km per hour from midnight to 12 noon with the strongest gust of 91 km per hour recorded at 1.36am.
2nd/3rd August - A low pressure system developed over north-eastern New South Wales late on the 2nd generating moderate to heavy falls of rain over the Northern Tablelands and Mid North Coast. The rain started in Armidale at 8pm on the 2nd and continued until 6pm on the 3rd. The total for the 48 hours to 9am on the 4th was 78.4 mm, while the 24 hour total to 9am on the 3rd of 49.8 mm was the highest daily fall since 30th November 2013 (50.8 mm). Moderate flooding in Dumaresq Creek occurred during the day on the 3rd, and minor flooding in the morning of the 4th.
22nd to 25th August - A low pressure trough over north-east New South Wales brought moderate widespread falls of rain to the north of the state. Armidale recorded 56.8 mm for the 72 hours ending 9am on the 25th which resulted in moderate flooding in Dumaresq Creek on the 24th and 25th.

WINTER 2016 STATISTICS (long term averages in brackets)
Rainfall: 274.4 mm (150.5 mm)   Rain days: 33 (28)
Average maximum temp: 14.0 deg (13.2 deg)
Average minimum temp: 1.9 deg (0.1 deg)
Highest maximum temp: 21.1 deg on 20th July
Lowest maximum temp: 3.6 deg on 27th June
Highest minimum: 14.2 deg on 21st July
Lowest minimum temp: -7.0 deg on 30th May
Fine sunny days: 30 (47)
Days with thunderstorms: 2 (1.4)
Days with frosts: 50 (55)