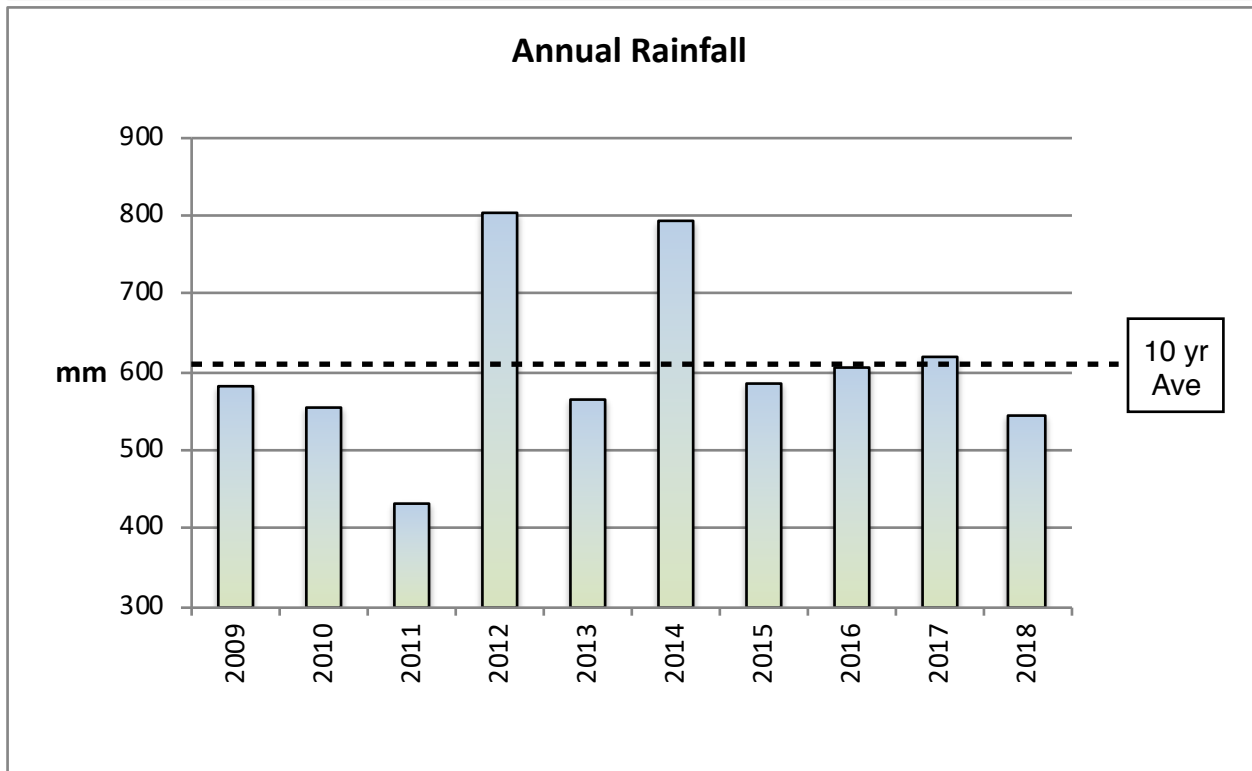
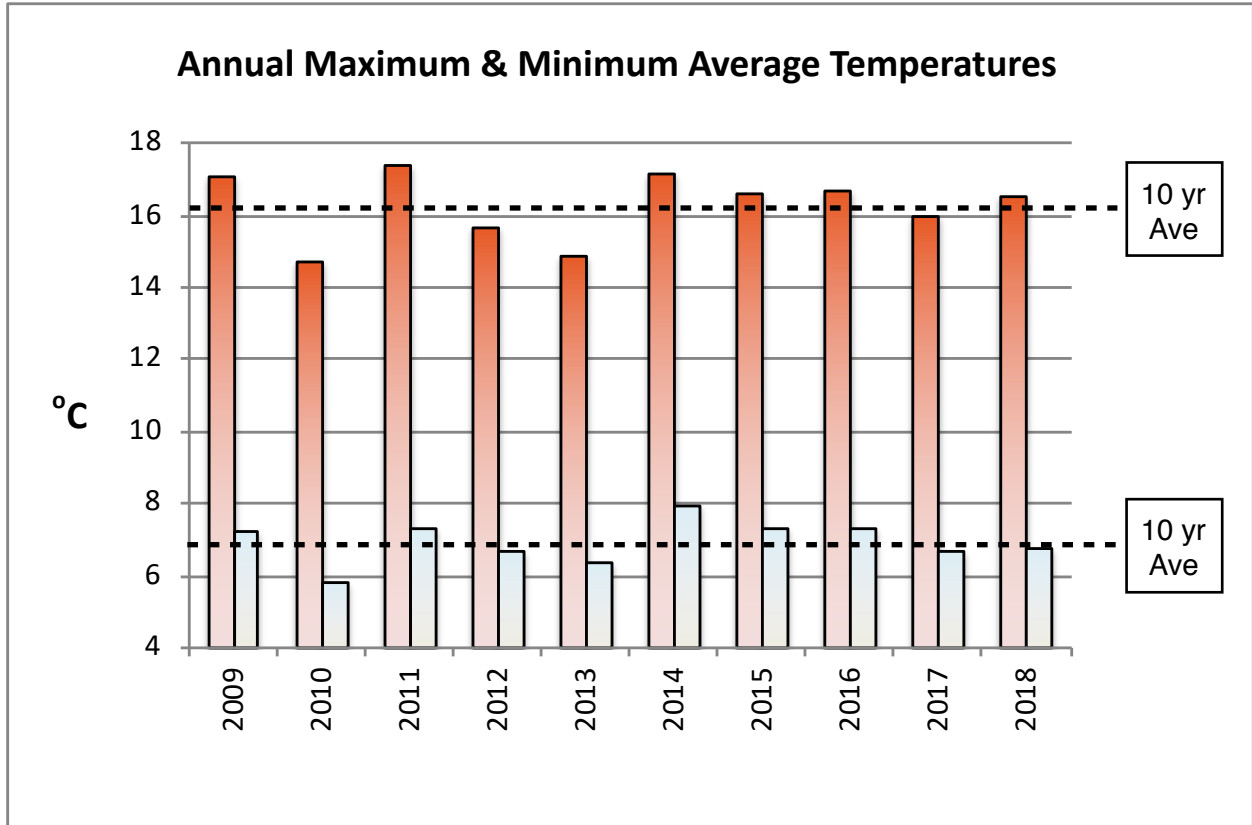


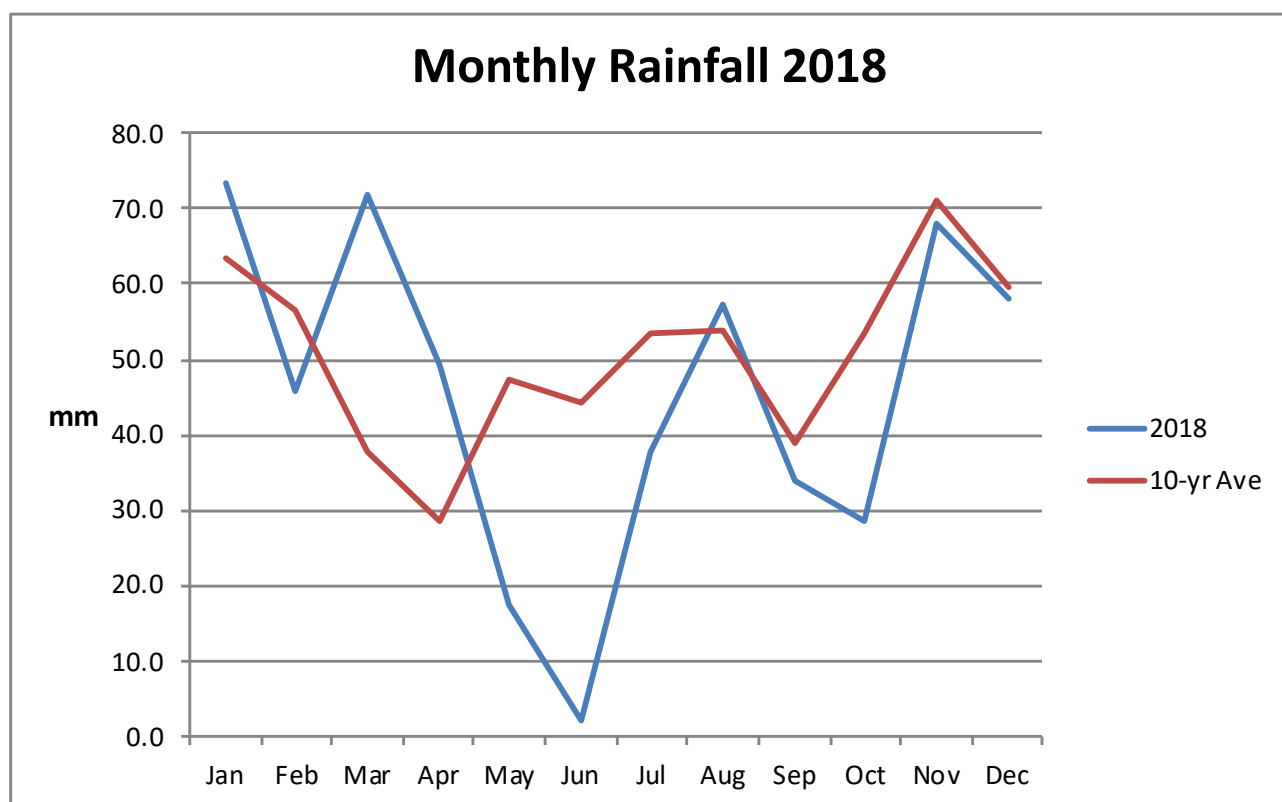
Wickham Market Weather Report for 2018

When taken over the whole year the fluctuations in temperature in 2018 tended to cancel out with both the average maximum and the average minimum close to the 10-year averages. The rainfall however was significantly less than the average. It was in fact the driest year since 2011.



The month-by-month temperature comparisons show what a very uneven year we had. February brought many days of clear, bright weather with consequent lack of rain but frosty nights. Half of the nights in February recorded temperatures below 0°C. The end of February and early March brought a change of weather when the wind went to the east bringing in much colder air and the first significant snowfall that Suffolk has seen for many years. We had a continuous period of 80 hours when the temperature in Wickham did not rise above freezing.

March remained chilly, but was significantly wet and all this contributed to very poor growing conditions. April was much closer to average, but then summer suddenly arrived in May. May, June, and July were all above expected temperatures with high numbers of sunshine hours. Over the three months rainfall was much less than the 10-year average and in fact June had the second lowest rainfall of any month in the whole of the Gardening Club weather records.



Farmers became very concerned about the impact of drought and the high summer temperatures on their crops, but fortunately August and September brought some sort of return to normality. The Club's Autumn Show in September was very successful despite the poor spring and the hot, dry summer. A credit to the skills of our Members.

October was dry and notable for a very high number of dry, sunny days, but this was not reflected in high temperatures. Whilst November was close to expected averages, December was noticeably warmer. Does this foretell another mild winter?

Although December was generally rather dull, Christmas morning dawned clear, bright and frosty - just like a Christmas card!