



SIGNIFICANT WEATHER – June 2008

SUMMARY

In Queensland a low pressure system caused widespread rainfall over the southeast Queensland region, bringing flooding along the Sunshine Coast. Thunderstorms were reported in New South Wales and South Australia. Two tornadoes were reported in Western Australia causing damage to many roofs.

LOWS

Queensland

From the 1st to the 4th a low pressure system formed off the central coast and moved southwards over the southeast Queensland region and into northern New South Wales. A wind gust of 90 km/h was recorded on the 2nd at Double Island Point and a wind gust of 98 km/h was recorded at Cape Moreton.

Widespread heavy rainfall also fell over much of southeast Queensland on the 2nd. Mount Tinbeerwah Alert on the Noosa river recorded 109mm in 2 hours which caused flash flooding and road closures on the Sunshine Coast, particularly in the Noosa area and around Brisbane.

THUNDERSTORMS/TORNADOES

New South Wales

On the 19th at Charlestown a thunderstorm caused local flash flooding.

South Australia

A line of thunderstorms and heavy showers associated with a cold front tracked across the Central and South East districts on the evening of the 12th, producing localised squally winds. A suspected downburst brought down several trees on a property at Moorak, near Mount Gambier (Lower South East).

Western Australia

On the 9th the passage of a front caused a tornado in Perth's southern suburbs of Shoalwater, Safety Bay and Coo롱up in the Rockingham region. A narrow trail of damage of just 20-30 metres wide extended along a 5 kilometre path. There was much roof damage.

There were isolated damage reports from other parts of the Perth metropolitan area. Strong winds ahead of the front caused soil erosion and duststorms in the southeast Agricultural area. Hopetoun recorded mean wind speeds of 55 km/h and Jacup recorded a wind gust of 93 km/h.

On the 27th a relatively slow moving front caused a period of heavy rain about the Lower West Coast and a tornado in Roleystone. The trail of damage extended for at least 2 kilometres and was about 50 metres wide. A few houses sustained significant roof damage. Most of the impact was to trees with some large trees snapped off. An estimate of the winds was 150-200 km/h. Some heavy rainfall occurred in the Perth metropolitan area with Champion Lakes reporting 29mm of rainfall in half an hour causing water inundation.

WIND

New South Wales

Winds greater than 90 km/h were reported on:

5th	Wattamolla (Royal National Park) 93 km/h
10th	Thredbo 115 km/h
11th	Thredbo 126 km/h
12th	Thredbo 113 km/h
13th	Thredbo 115 km/h
	Montague Island 94 km/h
15th	Wattamolla (Royal National Park) 96 km/h
25th	Thredbo 93 km/h
26th	Bellambi 109 km/h
	Thredbo 102 km/h
30th	Moss Vale 91 km/h
	Bombala 91 km/h
	Thredbo 102 km/h

Victoria

Winds greater than 100 km/h were reported on:

10th	Mount Hotham 104 km/h
11th	Mount Hotham 104 km/h
12th	Mount Hotham 113 km/h
13 th	South Channel Island 102 km/h
	Mount William 100 km/h, Wilsons Promontory 118 km/h, Gabo Island 102 km/h
21st	Wilsons Promontory 113 km/h
23rd	Wilsons Promontory 102 km/h
24th	Wilsons Promontory 100 km/h
	Wallan 102 km/h

26th Wilsons Promontory 102 km/h
 Mount William 102 km/h
 Cape Nelson 109 km/h
 Mount William 100 km/h
 Wilsons Promontory 131 km/h
 Cape Otway 113 km/h
 Mount William 104 km/h
 27th Wilsons Promontory 104 km/h
 30th Mount William 107 km/h
 Aireys Inlet 109 km/h

Tasmania

Winds greater than 110 km/h were reported on:

5th Macquarie Island 120 km/h
 8th Macquarie Island 128 km/h
 12th Mount Wellington 117 km/h
 22nd Mount Wellington 135 km/h
 Maatsuyker Island 120 km/h
 23rd Mount Wellington 135 km/h
 Maatsuyker Island 126 km/h
 Droughty Hill 124 km/h
 Tasman Island 111 km/h
 24th Mount Wellington 137 km/h
 Maatsuyker Island 130 km/h
 Droughty Hill 128 km/h
 Scotts Peak Dam 117 km/h
 Macquarie Island 113 km/h
 Hartz Mountain 113 km/h
 25th Maatsuyker Island 130 km/h
 Scotts Peak Dam 128 km/h
 Cape Grim 124 km/h, Mount Read 117 km/h
 Mount Wellington 115 km/h,
 Droughty Hill 113 km/h
 26th Hogan Island 180 km/h
 Maatsuyker Island 150 km/h
 Cape Grim 143 km/h
 Droughty Hill 120 km/h
 Mount Wellington 120 km/h
 Mount Read 119 km/h
 Hartz Mountain 117 km/h
 Swan Island 117 km/h, Cape Bruny 113 km/h
 27th Mount Wellington 126 km/h
 Maatsuyker Island 119 km/h
 Mount Read 117 km/h
 30th Mount Wellington 135 km/h
 Maatsuyker Island 130 km/h
 Cape Grim 122 km/h
 Droughty Hill 115 km/h

South Australia

A short burst of near gale force northwest winds affected parts of the eastern slopes of the Mount Lofty Ranges, just ahead of a front, on the evening of the 10th. A 10 minute mean wind of 63 km/h and a gust to 90 km/h was recorded at Strathalbyn, but there was no known damage.

Gale force northwest winds caused scattered, tree-related damage across the eastern slopes of the Mount Lofty Ranges between Mount Barker and Victor Harbour on the afternoon of the 25th. The wind averaged 65-70 km/h with gusts up to 98 km/h for a couple of hours at Strathalbyn and Hindmarsh Island.

Squally winds associated with heavy convective showers in the wake of a strong cold front on the morning of 30th caused localised minor tree damage in parts of Adelaide and the Central district. A wind gust of 91 km/h occurred at Stenhouse Bay (Yorke Peninsula) and Neptune Island recorded a wind gust of 115 km/h.

Western Australia

(see also the *Tornadoes* section)

On the 15th a deep low developed off the southwest coast during the day bringing gales to coastal parts of the Southwest district. Walpole reported a wind gust of 98 km/h. A man died at Kalgan near Albany when a tree fell on his car.

The initial cold front in the morning brought rainfall of 25-50mm along the Lower West coast resulting in some damage to properties. Many Rockingham properties damaged in the tornado the previous week sustained water damage.

The passage of a cold front on the 24th produced a wind gust of 93 km/h at Cape Leeuwin and 91 km/h at Cape Naturaliste.

FLOODING

Queensland

Bulloo River

Rainfall of between 40 and 60mm over two days caused rises in the Bulloo River at Quilpie with a minor peak recorded on the 4th. The floodwaters travelled slowly downstream with a moderate flood peak recorded at Thargomindah on the 10th.

Sunshine Coast Streams

Heavy rainfall of between 200 and 400 millimetres was recorded in the catchments of the Mary, Maroochy, Mooloolah and Noosa rivers during the 5 days to the 3rd. This caused areas of minor flooding in the Mary River between the 2nd and the 4th and moderate to major flooding in the tributary streams of the Maroochy and Mooloolah rivers and in Mountain Creek on the 2nd.

No significant riverine flooding was recorded in the lower Maroochy, Mooloolah and Noosa rivers but the heavy rainfall and stream/flash flooding caused significant traffic interruptions across the Sunshine Coast.

New South Wales

On the 3rd at Nambucca Heads (Mid North Coast) heavy rain caused local flooding after 189mm fell at Nambucca Heads. This is the highest daily rainfall on record for June at Nambucca Heads. A ceiling at the RSL club collapsed from water damage. A car

was swept off a road by floodwaters at Newee Creek, near Nambucca Heads. Mount Seaview recorded its highest June daily total of 193mm in 24 hours.

On the 4th heavy rain and strong winds were experienced along the Mid North Coast and Central Coast. King tides and flooding of the Hastings river resulted in the sandbagging of 6 houses in Port Macquarie. There were many fallen trees and leaking roofs and 100 people were isolated by floodwaters on the Macleay river upstream from Kempsey.

On the 5th in Sydney heavy rain caused local flash flooding of Audley Weir in southern Sydney. A road was closed to traffic after four separate rock falls caused by heavy rain.

BUSHFIRES

Northern Territory

Many large fires burnt across the Top End, mainly in the west. There were four major fires that threatened life and damaged property.

On the 4th a large fire on the southern side of Batchelor encroached onto property and destroyed two generators and a shed.

On the 11th a wildfire affected Milne, near Dundee Beach, and destroyed a house and threatened residents.

Two fires occurred at Beatrice Hill on the 24th and 27th, destroying two demountable homes as well as damaging machinery and fencing.

TEMPERATURE

Highest Mean Maximum Temperature for June

Station	Actual °C	Previous Highest °C	Year	Years of Record
New South Wales				
Barraba PO	18.9	18.5	2001	42
Pindari Dam	20.1	20.0	2001	36
Glen Innes PO	15.9	15.6	1979	101
Glen Innes Ag Res	15.6	15.0	2001	38
Inverell Research	18.4	18.0	2001	59
Bathurst Agric.	14.6	14.6	2005	99
Charlotte Pass	5.5	5.4	1972	78
Perisher Valley	6.2	5.7	1979	32
Hume Reservoir	15.8	15.3	2005	86
Tasmania				
Eddystone Point	15.4	15.4	1988	51
Hobart Airport	14.6	14.5	1962	51
Flinders Island Airport	15.7	15.6	1988	47

Highest Mean Minimum Temperature for June

Station	Actual °C	Previous Highest °C	Year	Years of Record
New South Wales				
Nelson Bay	12.6	11.8	2003	94
Paterson-Tocal	10.3	9.3	1978	38

Gulgong	6.6	5.5	2005	38
Oberon	4.1	4.0	1967	62
Sydney A/P	11.6	11.5	1991	69
Narooma	9.9	9.6	1967	43
Charlotte Pass	-1.7	-3.4	1973	78
Thredbo AWS	-1.5	-1.7	1967	41
Victoria				
Wilsons Promontory LH	11.3	11.1	2001	129
Melbourne RO	9.8	9.7	1991	154
Tasmania				
Burnie (Round Hill)	8.7	8.7	1988	60

Highest Daily Maximum Temperature for June

Station	Actual °C	Date	Previous Highest °C	Year	Years of Record
Western Australia					
Balladonia	29.7	01	28.2	1965	42
Jurien Bay	27.8	03	27.7	1975	39

Highest Daily Minimum Temperature for June

Station	Actual °C	Date	Previous Highest °C	Year	Years of Record
New South Wales					
Paterson-Tocal	15.0	04	14.6	2005	38

Lowest Daily Minimum Temperature for June

Station	Actual °C	Date	Previous Lowest °C	Year	Years of Record
Victoria					
Gabo Island LH	2.9	19	4.0	1994	52

RAINFALL

Highest Monthly Rainfall on Record for June

Station	Actual mm	Previous Highest mm	Year	Years of Record
New South Wales				
Broken Hill A/P	77.2	61.1	1978	61
Birdwood	206.2	196.4	1976	39
South Australia				
Wilpena (Martins Well)	71.2	62.2	2001	48

Lowest Monthly Rainfall on Record for June

Station	Actual mm	Previous Lowest mm	Year	Years of Record
New South Wales				
Perisher Valley	44.7	54.0	1982	31
Victoria				
Lima South (Lake Nillahcootie)	6.0	25.9	1969	41
Benambra (The Brothers)	15.6	20.6	1986	40
Lake Buffalo	21.4	26.7	1975	38
Durridwarrah	3.8	13.2	1886	135
Koroit	4.8	18.1	1969	120
Tasmania				
Copping	17.2	19.6	1979	38
Western Australia				
Esperance	29.6	32.6	1986	39
Esperance Aero	21.0	28.0	2000	39
Kalgoorlie-Boulder	1.4	2.1	1944	70
Katta Barega	18.8	22.2	2000	46
Lorinna	15.2	20.2	1977	37
Mount Howick	15.6	27.4	2000	45
Munsley	8.8	13.2	2003	36
Norseman	2.1	5.2	2000	112
Pleasant Valley	26.4	27.6	2000	59
Ravensthorpe	10.5	14.2	1976	107
Telina Downs	24.4	25.9	2000	45
Thomas River	24.4	24.6	2001	67

Highest Daily Rainfall on Record for June

Station	Actual mm	Date	Previous Highest mm	Year	Years of Record
Queensland					
Roseberth Station	55.8	09	46.7	1923	95
Trinidad	45.4	02	45.0	2006	40
Mulga Downs	69.4	03	42.9	1956	103
Thylungra Station	64.9	02	60.5	1935	114
New South Wales					
Broken Hill (Patton St)	58.0	06	54.1	1912	119
Broken Hill (Stephens Creek)	56.4	06	37.8	1923	117
Broken Hill Airport	58.4	06	29.0	1995	61
Wentworth (Tarawi)	25.0	05	23.1	1968	42
Coolabah (Tara)	44.2	10	32.5	1956	58
Manilla (Fern Hill)	45.6	03	33.3	1966	43
Bendemeer (Banalasta)	64.0	04	45.6	1993	34
Tia (Rambrah)	58.0	04	54.4	1975	55
Wittitrin	148.0	04	102.8	1974	47
Girralong	153.0	03	107.0	2005	35
Mount Seaview	192.8	04	118.6	2005	48
Birdwood	160.2	04	99.2	1989	39
Narrandera	35.3	19	33.6	1991	39
Victoria					
Portland	50.0	23	45.2	1891	146
South Australia					
Wilpena (Martins Well)	34.4	06	32.2	1994	48
Danggali Conservation Park	27.0	06	19.8	2001	37
Western Australia					
Halls Creek	44.0	07	37.2	1986	65

Note: Some statistical records mentioned in this report are based on data that have yet to be fully validated