

Hail on December 27 was last month's weather highlight - Met Office



The amount of hail registered in some places in Malta on December 27 was last month's weather highlight. This photo was taken by Arist Cordina in Valletta.

Last month's weather highlight was the amount of hail registered in some places, such as Valletta on December 27, the Meteorological Office said this morning.

It said in a statement that a thunderstorm at around 7 a.m. lasted two hours hitting Valletta and Birkirkara the worst. This hail was attributed to sub-zero temperatures at lower atmospheric altitudes which did not allow the rapid melting of the ice.

The office said that last month, there were four days with thunderstorms and 14 with precipitation. However, the total number of days with thunderstorms was below the December norm since 1951.

The total rainfall registered at Luqa Airport amounted to 102.8 mm, slightly less than the 30-year mean for December. The highest rainfall recorded in December in the past 85 years was in 1970, when a total of 302.6 mm of rain fell over the Maltese islands.

The Met Office said that the mean air temperature last month was 14.6 degrees C . This was 0.4 degrees C warmer than the typical 30-year December average.

Whereas the mean minimum temperature was higher by 0.9 degrees C, the mean maximum temperature was lower than the 30-year December average by 0.2 degrees C.

Comments

Paul Barrett (2 weeks, 3 days ago)

Some really interesting comments here - it would be nice to be able to turn to the end of the book and see who is right. All we can really guarantee at the moment is that tomorrow we will have some weather.

Remember it was a known fact that the world was flat - until some idiot came up with the idea that it was not.

M.E. Gillar (2 weeks, 3 days ago)

Al Gore has guaranteed the world that the northern polar ice cap will be gone in five years. I couldn't believe it either till I saw the video.

To view his comments on video, visit the following site:

<http://www.hootervillegazette.com>

then click on Mr. Gore's pic.

Happy viewing. You might also want to watch "The Great Global Warming Swindle" found in the video section.

Alex Ellul (2 weeks, 3 days ago)

@M Vella: Some more science:

"Anthropogenic (man-made) global warming bites the dust," declared astronomer Dr. Ian Wilson after reviewing the new study which has been accepted for publication in the Journal of Geophysical Research. Another scientist said the peer-reviewed study overturned "in one fell swoop" the climate fears promoted by the UN and former Vice President Al Gore. The study entitled "Heat Capacity, Time Constant, and Sensitivity of Earth's Climate System," was authored by Brookhaven National Lab scientist Stephen Schwartz.

There's a lot more if you want. It's all there for everyone to see. AGW as proposed by the IPCC and Al Gore is All Gone.

Alex Ellul (2 weeks, 3 days ago)

@M.Vella: A 2008 survey of 51,000 Canadian scientists revealed 68 per cent disagreed with the claim that global warming science is settled. And 31,000 American scientists have signed the Global Warming Petition Project that urges the U. S. government to reject the Kyoto treaty and any similar proposals, saying there is "no convincing scientific evidence" of a "catastrophic heating of the Earth's atmosphere."

Alex Ellul (2 weeks, 3 days ago)

@M.Vella: the UN claimed 2,500 scientists supported its key claim that human-generated greenhouse gases are the primary cause of global warming. But those 2,500 weren't asked to support it--they were only asked to review it. Only 62 completed the review, and 55 had serious concerns, leaving a total of seven to support the science that is the basis of the IPCC climate-change policy.

M Vella (2 weeks, 4 days ago)

I think everyone can make the distinction between authors and scientists!

cassar I (2 weeks, 4 days ago)

IPCC qisu il parlament taghna. ma nistax nkun ghar :-)

Alex Ellul (2 weeks, 4 days ago)

@T Vella: The 2007 IPCC report lists 37 authors. so where are the over the 2500 scientists you mentioned?

M Vella (2 weeks, 4 days ago)

Willis Eschenbach's studies are only published in Energy & Environment which has very low standards. That's where scientists go when they can't get published in a respected peer-reviewed journal. And if you want science it is simple - just read the official IPCC 2007 reports which again I repeat were compiled by over 2500 scientists from over 130 countries!

M. Brincat (2 weeks, 4 days ago)

Alex Ellul

What you state as facts are more like fictions!

Why should we argue and waste time about the obvious?

Alex Ellul (2 weeks, 4 days ago)

@M Vella: Booker is a journalist quoting scientists not lawyers and politicians. He is one of those journalists, increasing in numbers, who is courageous enough to go against the grain of false theories. Of course. if he were employed by the BBC he would be fired. But maybe in a few years time even the BBC will concede defeat.

I believe that in a few year's time there will be people who would be taking Al Gore and the IPCC to court for great financial damages.

Alex Ellul (2 weeks, 4 days ago)

@M.Vella please prove me wrong by science.

Alex Ellul (2 weeks, 4 days ago)

@Vella & Brincat: Some more scientific facts: One of the thousand dissenting scientists:

Climate researcher Willis Eschenbach, who has published climate studies in Energy and Environment journal and had comments published in the journal Nature, dissented from man-made climate fears in 2008. "I am definitely a critic of the IPCC, they are doing their job abysmally poorly. Rather than advance the cause of climate science, they impede it through their reliance on bad statistics, bad economics, and bad data," Eschenbach wrote to EPW on February 20, 2008. "As an example of the ridiculous state of climate science, the major discussion revolves around the global surface temperature. We have different major groups (HadCRUT, GISS, GHCN, NOAA) each keeping a 'global temperature record', and all of them are different," Eschenbach explained. "Even with a Freedom of Information Act request, I couldn't get HadCRUT3 to divulge their data ...that's not science. The most basic numbers in the field, and we don't know how they are calculated, and they are not shared," he added. Eschenbach also refuted the attempted resurrection of the "Hockey Stick" temperature graph in 2008. Do you want more science?.....Open your eyes.

M Vella (2 weeks, 4 days ago)

@ alex ellul - the Daily Telegraph article you are quoting was NOT written by a scientist but by a journalist. His name is Christopher Booker who has been proved wrong on many other issues and is NOT accepted as a climate change expert at all

M Vella (2 weeks, 4 days ago)
@ alex ellul - you are completely wrong.

Alex Ellul (2 weeks, 4 days ago)
@ Vella and Brincat: The IPCC report was written by 56 scientists. Today, thousands of scientists all over the world are writing to the press and politicians about their skepticism of the AGW theory. However, the press including tv and radio such the BBC are outright against this dissenting and would prefer to keep on feeding hogwash to their readers and viewers due to their political leftist affiliations, but especially because of their total allegiance and belief in Al Gore's "An Inconvenient Truth" which has now been proven to be a Convenient Lie. But the tide is turning. CNN is commencing to accept these peer-reviewed scientific reports. The telegraph too.

Peer-reviewed scientific reports show:

Ice increasing in Antarctic, temperature falling worldwide, North polar ice back to normal, solar activity down to minimum in 2008 and el Ninio activity as predicted by AGW proponents for the past decade did not materialise.

Fact is that all predictions by pro-AGW did not materialise.

All prediction by AGW skeptics scientist have materialised.

This link leads to a report written by hundreds of leading scientists, debunking AGW:

There are many many more.

http://epw.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?FuseAction=Files.View&FileStore_id=83947f5d-d84a-4a84-ad5d-6e2d71db52d9&CFID=1002613&CFTOKEN=78337477

Mike O'Hara (2 weeks, 4 days ago)
Global warming means a breakdown of previous weather patterns, rather than a consistent rise in average temperatures.

The most stark piece of evidence I have seen lately is that there are now over 40 active vineyards in Finland. Think about it.

a sultana (2 weeks, 4 days ago)
global warming or not, CO2 is harmful to us and the less we produce the better! don't forget that even if the world is cooling down it doesn't mean it won't warm up again in the coming years and skin cancer is still on the increase. so if the world is cooling down...shall we stop being pro recycling and afforestation?

Alex Ellul (2 weeks, 4 days ago)
Graham, I remember the seventies. Scientists were talking of an ice-age then. They were loonies. Now they're saying CO2-caused global warming. They are being proved again to be loonies. Because you see, it's that white hot ball up in the sky that keeps the earth energised. It has its 'seasons'. Solar seasons that effect earth's conditions. The sun is what makes or breaks our planet, not whether we have 0.025% or 0.035% of CO2 in our atmosphere. The green house effect is what keeps our planet at the right temperature. If this greenhouse effect was non-existent, our planet temperature would be several degrees lower and the earth would be mostly covered in ice. The major atmospheric component that keeps the heat inside the atmosphere (greenhouse effect) is water vapour not CO2 gas.

As John Spiteri commented below: Since AGW has failed, its proponents have moved from Global Warming to Climate Change, proving that even AGW proponents have realised that their theories are worthless, but somehow they have to keep their finances

well oiled for their own sake. Global warming will be proved to be the greatest scam the world has ever seen.

M Vella (2 weeks, 4 days ago)

at Alex Ellul: Your mistake is in believing newspapers reports as if they were Gospel. I, on the other hand, believe OFFICIAL reports such as those of IPCC 2007, which by the way, was confirmed NOT by just a few hundred scientists but by over 2500 scientists from over 130 countries!

M. Brincat (2 weeks, 4 days ago)

@ Alex Ellul

Kindly opt for a reliable sources of your Mis (information) please.

cassar i (2 weeks, 4 days ago)

i dont believe in global warming. Its the world cycle as had happen in previous years.The shifting of the world axis thus the upperpart gets closer to the sun.That why all the melting at the north. But nothing mentioned at the south. Like the Med was once formed of land maybe in a few 100 years time the sahara will have the first sking resort. All in all its a tax generation issue. Must have seen BBC documentary a few months ago. That all folks.

Graham Crocker (2 weeks, 4 days ago)

If you aren't a geologist its hard to say, there are many theories going about including Global Dimming which states that Global warming was just a side effect of something greater.

Also do not believe all the reports, there are many theories about world climate change. True and Real reports are just as real as any other report, with the difference that they are better funded. Of course better funding doesn't make them correct.

In the 1970's, Global warming activists were labeled as Loonies so...

Alex Ellul (2 weeks, 4 days ago)

Another quote regarding AGW: "Secondly, 2008 was the year when any pretence that there was a "scientific consensus" in favour of man-made global warming collapsed. At long last, as in the Manhattan Declaration last March, hundreds of proper scientists, including many of the world's most eminent climate experts, have been rallying to pour scorn on that "consensus" which was only a politically engineered artefact, based on ever more blatantly manipulated data and computer models programmed to produce no more than convenient fictions."

Alex Ellul (2 weeks, 4 days ago)

@M. Vella: Thousands of scientists worldwide are dissenting from AGW (anthropogenic global warming) theory. The past ten years have not been the hottest on record. This is all hogwash propagated by journalists and failed politicians who quote IPCC reports that are produced by a few hundred scientists basing their reports on erratic data, so that they would be able to continue getting the millions of dollars in funds for their own upkeep.

Thousands of scientists and professional forecasters worldwide are of the opinion that the IPCC reports are flawed, grossly flawed. Even CNN weatherman are dissenting from IPCC reports.Most scientists, not belonging to the IPCC bandwagon believe that we may actually be on the verge of a cooling period.

The following link is from today's The Telegraph of UK, not some backyard publication, commencing with: quote "2008 was the year man-made global warming was disproved, according to the Telegraph's Christopher Booker. Sceptics have long argued that there are other explanations for climate change other than man-made CO2 and here we look at some of the arguments put forward by those who believe that global warming is all a hoax."

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/earth/environment/globalwarming/4029837/Global-warming-Reasons-why-it-might-not-actually-exist.html>

John Spiteri (2 weeks, 4 days ago)

@Mr Vella - Alex Ellul is right. Scientific Data of global temperatures from different sources all indicate that 1998 was the last year that registered warming. since 1998 earth has registered cooling especially in the last couple of years where it cooled by over 1/2 degree celcius - that is it wiped out all the warming registered over the past hundred years. so much so, that now politicians have stopped gloating about global warming and have now called it 'climate change'. but scientific evidence never mattered to the eco fanatics. while the world continues to register record cold temperatures they assure us this is because of a warming trend. try and figure that out..

M Vella (2 weeks, 4 days ago)

to Alex Ellul: not true at all as the past 10 years have been among the hottest ever on record. And if you want true science then you should see the TRUE and REAL reports confirming global warming on the IPCC website at www.ipcc.ch

Alex Ellul (2 weeks, 4 days ago)

@mike pace: Where's this report? Can I see it? The only reports I'm getting which are based on true science, show that the earth is not warming anymore, and in fact has been cooling down since 1998 while the northern hemisphere has started its new year with one of the harshest winters ever. Global warming theorists/alarmists are worried that their theories are just that, alarmist theories. We had warming, but due to natural factors such as solar cycling. Now it could be that we are in for a cold spell. Don't throw those fur coats in the bin.

mike pace (2 weeks, 4 days ago)

According to predictions in recent global test by European science professors in the coming years not far away the north part of Europe is going the hot than normal and the south part which included our island is going to be cover by ice as cold age is occur again around our planet