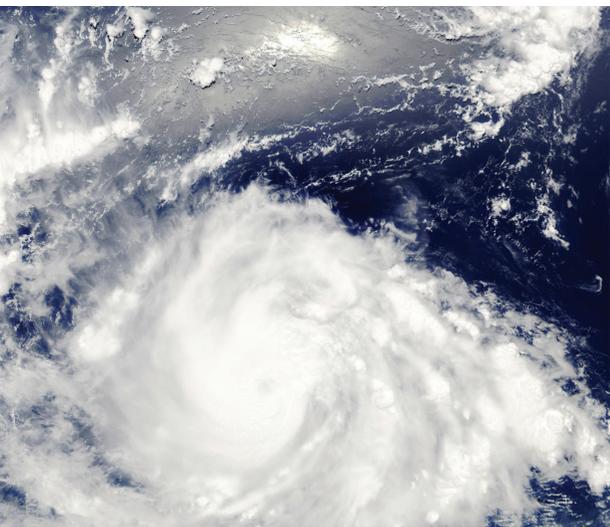


# CAREERS

## in WEATHER & CLIMATE



*The weather affects everyone....  
discover how our weather and climate work and make a difference to people's lives.*

The only thing certain about our weather is that it changes. It affects all of us, whether individually, as a community or through business.

Almost every day there are news stories about weather events - floods, droughts, hurricanes, tornadoes and melting ice. The changing climate will have a big impact on our lives, either directly because of the weather or because of the changes we will need to make in lifestyle. Underpinning our understanding of all of this is **meteorology** - the study of weather and climate, and how these affect the Earth's eco-systems.

[www.metlink.org](http://www.metlink.org)

# What is a meteorologist?

*Meteorologists work in fields connected with weather and climate. There is a wide range of career opportunities in organizations ranging from insurance companies in the City to research stations in the Antarctic, and from television to Government.*

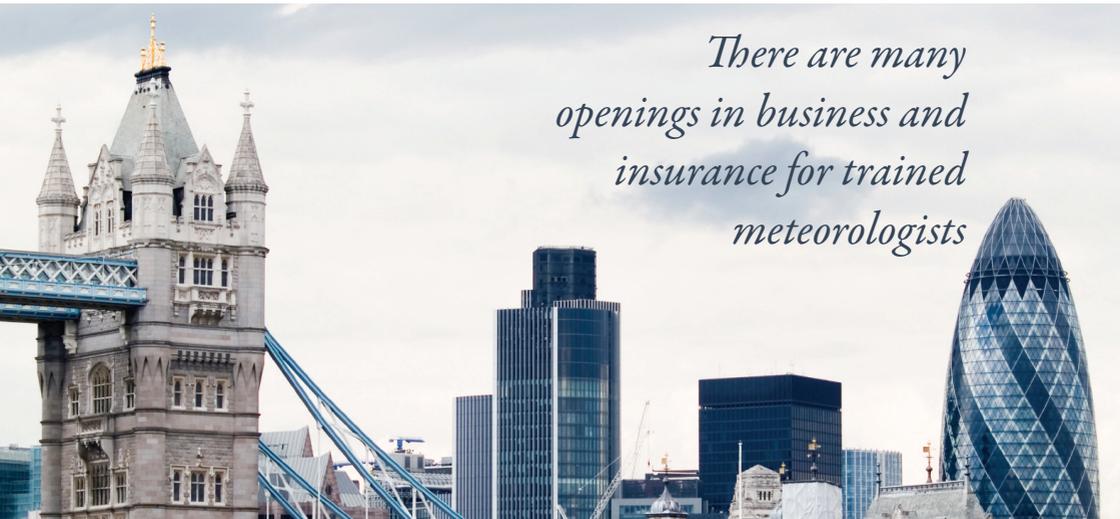


## *Amongst other things, meteorologists:*

- ◇ **observe** the weather, using ground-based instruments, airborne systems and satellites,
- ◇ interpret the observations, with the help of computers, to produce **weather forecasts** for a wide range of communities, including aviation, shipping, the utilities, the armed forces, farmers, the insurance industry and the emergency services,
- ◇ develop **computer models** to help us understand the weather and climate system,
- ◇ combine models and observations to make weather forecasts and predict the **future climate**.

*Meteorology is an exciting, challenging, interesting and highly rewarding profession, which involves collaboration not just with colleagues in other disciplines, but also across the global meteorological community.*

*There are many openings in business and insurance for trained meteorologists*



# What qualifications do you need?

Most meteorologists have a strong background in **physics** and **maths**, preferably to degree level. Degrees involving a significant proportion of meteorology are offered at BSc or MSc level by a number of UK universities. Several also offer PhD opportunities. Some jobs are suitable for people with qualifications in geography and environmental science.

For non-graduates, some employers offer vocational, on-the-job training leading to HND/ NVQ/SVQ qualifications in meteorology.

A large proportion of the professional forecaster training in the United Kingdom is carried out at the Royal Navy's Flagship Officer Sea Training group and the Met Office College, where courses are run for trainees from countries around the world.



You can find lots more about courses and public, private and academic employers on our web site at:

[www.metlink.org](http://www.metlink.org)

The Royal Meteorological Society is the professional and learned Society for meteorologists in the UK, and awards experienced meteorologists the professional qualification of *Chartered Meteorologist*.

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Registered charity number 208222



# Meet some meteorologists

Fiona  
Fitzherbert-Brockholes



Meteorology  
Consultant

*"My work combines my love of sailing with qualifications in meteorology. Amongst other things, I produce forecasts for all Olympic, European & World regattas, helping boat designers and all competitors optimise their performance."*

Michael Dukes



Weather  
Forecaster,  
MeteoGroup UK

*"After studying geography I took an MSc in applied meteorology. Now I manage a team of forecasters in one of Europe's biggest weather businesses."*

Prof Andy Challinor



Climate Scientist,  
Leeds University

*"I wanted to put my physics degree to a practical use. My research brings together meteorology, agriculture and socio-economics to try to help improve global food security."*

Dr Mat Collins  
FRMetS



Climate Scientist,  
The Met Office

*"To do research in meteorology you need a strong background in maths and/or physical sciences and computer programming experience, but most of all you need a keen interest in understanding how the atmosphere works."*

Steff Gaulter  
FRMetS



Weather  
presenter, Al  
Jazeera English

*"Soon after leaving Cambridge, I saw an advert for a job at the Met Office. They were looking for maths and physics graduates to become forecasters. I've never looked back. A career in meteorology can take you anywhere!"*

Cdr Derek Swannick  
FRMetS



Royal Navy

*"Being at sea in heavy weather affirmed my interest in the weather! With qualifications in physics, meteorology and oceanography, I now provide hydrographic, meteorological and oceanographic information to the Ministry of Defence and Royal Navy."*