

BOGNOR REGIS
METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

FEBRUARY 1999

RAINFALL

29.6mm (1.12ins) on 12 days.
Greatest fall in 24 hours (09-09h) - 6.8mm (0.27ins) on 28th.
February 1998 total rainfall - 7.7mm (0.30ins) on 6 days.
January to February 1999 - 107.1mm (4.22ins)
January to February 1998 - 108.1mm (4.25ins)

TEMPERATURES

Highest Maximum	-	12.2 ^o C (54.0 ^o F)	on 18th.
Lowest Maximum	-	2.7 ^o C (36.8 ^o F)	on 8th.
Highest Minimum	-	8.0 ^o C (46.4 ^o F)	on 19th.
Lowest Minimum	-	-3.5 ^o C (25.7 ^o F)	on 14th.
Lowest Grass	-	-6.5 ^o C (20.3 ^o F)	on 14th.

SUNSHINE

February 1999 - 115.2 hours on 22 days.
February 1998 - 112.0 hours on 21 days.
Maximum sunshine in 24 hours - 9.6 hours on 22nd.
January to February 1999 - 206.0 hours.
January to February 1998 - 206.7 hours.

SUMMARY

February was typical of the last of the winter months with alternative spells of mild and cold weather - fortunately the former outnumbering the latter. There were some light snow flurries on the afternoon of 8th but apart from this hint of snow, snowfalls were confined to well north of the area. The rainfall for the month was well below the seasonal average which allowed the previously well saturated ground to dry out. Sunshine was well above the average and there were some mild and sunny days towards the latter part of the month when one could be mistaken into believing Spring was in the air.

The month began with pressure exceptionally high over the U.K. (1042.2mbs). It was dry and mild but lacking in sunshine. The high pressure moved away to the south west of the U.K. on 5th, and with low pressure to the north east, there began a period of cold weather. Winds moved around to the north but fortunately stayed light to moderate. There were some sunny but cold days and a succession of night frosts from 8th to 17th. Throughout this period the weather remained very quiet. Temperatures began to rise on 17th and winds backed to the west. There followed some mild sunny days and night temperatures generally kept above zero. On the night 21/22 a deep depression crossed the U.K. from west to east bringing gale force winds albeit little rain (1.3mm). The following day saw the sunniest day of the month (9.6 hours). The weather continued through to the end of the month remaining mainly dry, mild, and with variable amounts of sunshine. The final air frost of the month was recorded on night 24/25.

The rainfall of 29.6mm was well below the seasonal average of 45.91mm.

The sunshine total of 115.2 hours was well above the seasonal average of 88.3 hours. The Met. Office have labelled this winter as the sunniest in 10 years.

The mean maximum temperature of 8.7^oC was well above the seasonal average of 7.2^oC whilst the mean minimum of 2.6^oC was just above the seasonal average of 2.4^oC.

A.E.S.

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