

BOGNOR REGIS  
METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS  
MARCH 2000

RAINFALL

24.6mm (0.97ins) on 12 days.  
Greatest fall in 24 hours (09-09h) - 8.7mm (0.34ins) on 31st.  
March 1999 total rainfall - 40.8mm (1.61ins) on 17 days.  
January to March 2000 - 96.2mm (3.79ins)  
January to March 1999 - 147.9mm (5.82ins)

TEMPERATURES

Highest Maximum	-	16.0°C (60.8°F)	on 13th.
Lowest Maximum	-	7.0°C (44.6°F)	on 29th.
Highest Minimum	-	9.5°C (49.1°F)	on 10th.
Lowest Minimum	-	0.2°C (32.3°F)	on 4th & 5th.
Lowest Grass	-	-4.0°C (24.8°F)	on 5th.

SUNSHINE

March 2000 - 147.6 hours on 26 days.  
March 1999 - 157.4 hours on 26 days.  
Maximum sunshine in 24 hours - 10.5 hours on 15th.  
January to March 2000 - 358.0 hours.  
January to March 1999 - 363.4 hours.

SUMMARY

March was mild, fairly dry, and with an above average amount of sunshine. In fact, were it not for the heavy rainfall during the last night of the month (8.7mm), it would have been the driest March since 1990. Winds throughout the month were in the main on the light side with a noted absence of the strong winds usually associated with March.

The month began where February left off with the weather continuing unsettled and, with the winds backing to the north west, night temperatures dropped to bring ground frosts. Pressure rose over the U.K. on 4th to bring dry sunny weather although it felt cool in the northerly winds. On 6th the high pressure became stabilised to the south of the U.K. There followed a period of dry and mild weather with a fair amount of sunshine. Winds continued light to moderate. A cold front passed through the area during the night 13/14 to bring the first sight of rain for nine days. The weather continued settled. It remained dry and there were some very mild days with plenty of sunshine. There were however occasional night frosts. The high pressure moved away to the south on 23rd to allow low pressure to take over. Rain during the afternoon of 23rd (1.1mm) ended a dry spell of nine days and brought with it a sand deposit from the Mediterranean. Low pressure continued to dominate the weather scene through to the end of the month. Day temperatures dropped and there were some dull days. Day temperatures dropped further during the last six days of the month and with the winds veering to the north there were some very cold days, in particular on 29th, when a maximum day temperature of 7.0°C was recorded - the lowest day temperature since 26th January (6.2°C).

The total rainfall for the month of 24.6mm was well below the seasonal average of 60.44mm.

The sunshine total of 147.6 hours was well above the seasonal average of 131.0 hours but lower than March 99 (157.4 hours).

The mean maximum and minimum temperatures of 11.3°C and 4.6°C were both above their respective seasonal averages of 9.2°C and 4.0°C.

A.E.S.

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