

BOGNOR REGIS

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

APRIL 2003

RAINFALL

26.6mm (1.05ins) on 9 days.

Greatest fall in 24 hours (09-09h) 6.6mm (0.26ins) on 27th.

April 2002 total rainfall - 30.2mm (1.19ins) on 8 days.

January to April 2003 - 157.1mm (6.18ins) January to April 2002 - 268.8mm (10.58ins)

TEMPERATURES

Highest Maximum - 23.6°C (74.4°F) on 16th.

Lowest Maximum - 8.8°C (47.8°F) on 7th.

Highest Minimum - 11.0°C (51.8°F) on 14th.

Lowest Minimum - 1.8°C (30.5°F) on 10th.

Lowest Grass - 5.0°C (23.0°F) on 10th.

SUNSHINE

April 2003 - 206.3 hours on 27 days.

April 2002 - 220.9 hours on 30 days.

Maximum sunshine in 24 hours - 12.9 hours on 16th.

January to April 2003 - 595.5 hours

January to April 2002 - 493.2 hours:

SUMMARY

April was warm, dry, and sunny with a record day temperature of 23.6°C recorded on 16th. The mean maximum day temperature for the month of 14.5°C was the highest for at least thirty years. Clear night skies resulting in a total of eight ground frosts kept the mean minimum temperature on par to the seasonal average. There was a long dry period during the month with no rain recorded between 2nd and 14th. The month began with the weather unsettled. A shower of rain during the afternoon of 1st saw the first rainfall (3.5mm) for a period of 20 days. On 2nd, pressure began to rise resulting in plenty of sunshine and more settled weather.

On 4th, day temperatures rose to 19.5°C a figure normally associated with June or July. On 7th, pressure began to drop. The weather became rather unsettled and it became cooler although it remained sunny. Night frosts were in evidence between 7th and 12th. On 15th, high pressure returned and began to dominate the weather scene. Between 15th and 18th, day temperatures exceeded those of most resorts in the Mediterranean. It remained dry with plenty of sunshine. High pressure moved away on 19th. The weather became more unsettled and it became generally cooler and cloudy. Rain during the morning of 20th (4.8mm) broke the dry spell. The weather continued unsettled for the next ten days with sunshine and showers being the order of the day through to the end of the month.

The total rainfall of 26.6mm was well below the seasonal average of 46.37mm the driest since 1997 (13.7mm).

The sunshine total of 206.3 hours was above the seasonal average of 192.5 hours.

The mean maximum temperature of 14.5°C was well above the seasonal average of 11.8°C and the mean minimum of 5.3°C on par with the seasonal average.

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