

## **BOGNOR REGIS**

### **METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS**

#### **MARCH 2004**

##### **RAINFALL**

41.4mm (1.63ins) on 18 days.

Greatest fall in 24 hours (09—09h) — 9.0mm (0.35ins) on 12th.

March 2003 total rainfall — 34.3mm (1.35ins) on 11 days.

January to March 2004 — 134.4mm (5.29ins)

January to March 2003 — 130.5mm (5.14ins)

##### **TEMPERATURES**

Highest Maximum - 16.8°C (62.2°F) on 30th.

Lowest Maximum - 5.6°C (42.0°F) on 11th.

Highest Minimum - 9.0°C (48.2°F) on 31st.

Lowest Minimum - -2.0°C (28.4°F) on 2nd.

Lowest Grass - -4.3°C (24.2°F) on 2nd.

##### **SUNSHINE**

March 2004 — 127.6 hours on 24 days.

March 2003 — 174.4 hours on 26 days.

Maximum sunshine in 24 hours - 10.7 hours on 30th.

January to March 2004 — 296.2 hours.

January to March 2003 — 389.2 hours.

##### **SUMMARY**

March was a changeable month with some sunny and mild days contrasted with periods of strong winds. There were a few days when day temperatures were below the seasonal average for January and two occasions when hail was recorded. The total sunshine was just below the seasonal average and rainfall well below the seasonal average.

The month began with high pressure well established over the U.K. and dominating the weather scene. It was a sunny start with light winds, frosty night temperatures, and maximum sunshine. Sunshine however came in short supply from 3rd but day temps rose to double figures from the 5th. Pressure began to drop on 11th to give a cloudy day with a bitterly cold wind. Hail was recorded during the morning with a snow fall north of the area during night 11/12. The weather continued changeable with rain (9.0mm) recorded on 12th. A total of 9.5 hours of sunshine was recorded on 13th following, and to be followed by, periods of little or no sunshine. From 15th to 18th the weather continued changeable with thick fog on the mornings of 17th and 18th, with the fog persisting throughout the day on 17th. Temperatures remained mild. On 19th, a deep depression crossed the U.K. to bring gale force winds on 19th and near gale force on 20th. The weather continued with sunshine and showers with hail on the afternoon of 21<sup>st</sup>, surprisingly rainfall was comparatively slight. The weather continued changeable to the end of the month with the 30th turning out to be an absolute idyllic day with a maximum temperature of 16.8°C and wall to wall sunshine (10.1hours).

The rainfall total for the month of 41.1mm was well below the seasonal average of 60.44mm despite rainfall being recorded on a total of 18 days.

The sunshine total of 127.6 hours was just below the seasonal average of 131.0 hours.

The mean maximum temperature of 9.8°C and minimum of 4.5°C were both above their respective seasonal averages of 9.2°C and 4.0°C. There were a total of 8 ground frosts recorded during the month.

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