

## **BOGNOR REGIS**

### **METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS**

#### **MARCH 2006**

##### **RAINFALL**

48.9mm (1.92ins) on 14 days.  
Greatest fall in 24 hours (09-09h) - 10.7mm (0.42ins) on 29th.  
March 2005 total rainfall - 44.7mm (1.76ins) on 12 days.  
January to March 2006 - 115.0mm (4.53ins)  
January to March 2005 - 108.0mm (4.25ins)

##### **TEMPERATURES**

Highest Maximum	-11.5°C (52.7°F) on 31st.
Lowest Maximum	- 3.4°C (38.1°F) on 12th.
Highest Minimum	-8.5°C (47.3°F) on 31st.
Lowest Minimum	--3.0°C (26.6°F) on 2nd.
Lowest Grass	--5.9°C (21.3°F) on 5th.

##### **SUNSHINE**

March 2006 - 119.9 hours on 24 days.  
March 2005 - 104.6 hours on 23 days.  
Maximum sunshine in 24 hours - 10.3 hours on 19th.  
January to March 2006 - 269.0 hours.  
January to March 2005 - 285.9 hours.

##### **SUMMARY**

March was for the greater part a cold month, at times very cold, with the predominantly north east to east winds resulting in the day and night temperatures being well below their seasonal averages. The change to more southerly winds during the last week of the month prevented what otherwise would have been rated as an exceptionally cold month and finally brought to an end a winter hangover to herald the belated arrival of spring. Sunshine hours were well below the seasonal average and rainfall yet again well below the seasonal average.

The month began where the previous month left off, cold, bitterly cold at times in the northerly winds. Night temperatures continued below zero. Showers of hail were recorded on 2nd and the odd snow flurry was in evidence. For the first six days of the month there was plenty of sunshine and it remained dry. On 7th, it rained throughout most of the day (9.9mm) with the day temperatures nearing double figures. The weather continued unsettled with a distinct lack of sunshine. From 11th, it became cooler and drier with sunshine still hard to find. The weather stayed unsettled and it became cold in the north easterly winds. It stayed dry through to the night 23/24 when 6.5mm, of rain were recorded to break the sequence of a fourteen day dry period. Temperatures began to rise with the last ground frost of the month recorded on 23rd. The weather continued unsettled with rain recorded daily through to the end of the month with temperatures continuing to rise and the weather taking on a more seasonal role. Strong south westerly winds were very much in evidence during the last five days.

The total rainfall of 48.9mm was well below the seasonal average of 60.44mm with 80% of the month's total recorded during the last nine days.

The sunshine total of 119.9 hours was well below the seasonal average of 131.0 hours.

The mean maximum temperature of 8.1°C and minimum of 2.7°C were both well below their seasonal averages of 9.2°C and 4.0°C the coldest since 1987.

A.E.S.            04 APR 06