

## **BOGNOR REGIS METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS**

### **MARCH 2008**

#### **RAINFALL**

60.2mm (2.3ins) on 21 days.

Greatest fall in 24 hours (09-09h)

March 2007 total rainfall

January to March 2008 - 11.8mm (0.46ins) on 15th.

January to March 2007 - - 50.6mm (1.99ins) on 14 days.

#### **TEMPERATURES**

Highest Maximum - 13.3°C (56.0°F) on 2nd.

Lowest Maximum - 6.2°C (43.1°F) on 24th.

Highest Minimum - 9.2°C (48.5°F) on 2nd.

Lowest Minimum - -1.0°C (30.2°F) on 5th.

Lowest Grass - -2.5°C (27.5°F) on 21st.

#### **SUNSHINE**

March 2008 - 126.7 Hours. March 2007 - 199.9 Hours.

Most sunshine in 24 hours - 10.9 hours on 27th.

January to March 2008 - 331.8 hours.

January to March 2007 - 292.3 hours.

#### **SUMMARY**

March will be remembered mainly for the arctic conditions which prevailed during the earliest Easter for some 90 years. However, overall the rainfall total was within a quarter of a millimetre of the seasonal average and the sunshine total and day and night temperatures were close to their seasonal averages.

The month began mainly dry and with plenty of sunshine for the first two days. Thereafter it got progressively colder with the coldest night of the month on the 5th with an air frost of -1.0°C. It remained dry and sunshine was very much in evidence. During the night 7/8 a deep depression began forming to the west of the U.K. Associated frontal activity produced 3.5mm of rain to break a fairly dry spell. During the night 9/10 there was a large pressure drop as the depression covered the U.K. A barometric pressure of 973 millibars brought gale force winds and heavy rain to the area. The strong winds caused some local damage. The 12th was a much calmer day with a fair amount of sunshine. The following four days were dull with showers. On 17th it turned colder with a succession of ground frosts albeit mainly light up to the 25th. Winds were strong from the north -east and localised showers of snow or sleet were a common occurrence. The weather became more settled from the 25th and remained so until the end of the month.

The rainfall total of 60.2mm was close to the seasonal average of 60.4mm.

The sunshine total of 126.7 hours was just short of the seasonal average of 131.0 hours.

The mean maximum temperature of 10.3°C and minimum of 4.6°C were both above their respective seasonal averages of 9.2°C and 4.0°C.