

BOGNOR REGIS
METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS
MARCH 2012

RAINFALL

14.4 mm (0.57 ins) on 5 days.

Greatest fall in 24 hours 09-09h 7.8 mm (0.30 ins) on 3rd

March 2011 total rainfall 18.5 mm (0.73ins) on 5 days

January to March 2011 191.7 mm (7.55 ins)

January to March 2012 62.3 mms (1.98 ins)

TEMPERATURES

Highest Maximum - 19.8 °C 67.6°F) on 30th

Lowest Maximum - 2.1 °C (35.8°F) on 3rd

Highest Minimum - 9.3°C (48.7°F) on 24th

Lowest Minimum - 2.0 °C (35.6°F) on 8th

Lowest Grass - -1.5 °C (29.0 ° F) on 6th

SUNSHINE

March 2012 - 168.2 hours on 27 days

March 2011 - 165.9 hours on 28 days

Maximum sunshine in 24 hours 10.7 hours on 27th

January to March 2011 291.8 hours

January to March 2012 332.7 hours

SUMMARY for MARCH 2012

Most of the month was influenced by high pressure, although there were short unsettled spells around 3rd-6th and 17th-18th. Eastern England received some welcome rainfall on 4th, 5th and 17th, but apart from this much of the month was dry, adding to mounting concerns about drought. As well as the dryness, the period 23rd-30th was remarkably sunny across virtually the whole of the UK. Daytime temperatures rose strongly, with many new station records, and also new monthly extremes for Scotland being set. The provisional UK mean temperature was 2.5 °C above the 1971-2000 average, ranking 3rd warmest in a series since 1910 and the warmest March since 1957 and most of the UK was much drier than average and provisionally the driest March since 1953, and the 5th driest since 1910; in Northern Ireland and Eastern Scotland it ranked 3rd driest. Sunshine amounts were well above normal, exceeding 150% for most of the UK; indeed this was provisionally the sunniest March in England in a series since 1929.

Bognor Regis recorded just a quarter of its average monthly rainfall for March and 23 percent more sunshine hours than average. The mean maximum temperature of 13.0 deg. C. was much higher than the March monthly mean average of 9.7 deg.C. and the mean minimum temperature of 5.7 deg. C. was approx. 28 percent higher than the average of 4.12 deg.C. Consequently there is serious concern about the severe and continuing drought.