

February 2025

High pressure centred over Germany at the start of the month kept the wet and windy weather to the west of the UK, although we were blanketed in cloud throughout the 1st. Unusually for the wind direction, we were treated to some excellent visibility and even some longer spells of sunshine on the 2nd. With high pressure persisting over central Europe, fronts were weakening as they crossed the UK and there was little change in our weather which remained settled, but for the odd spot of drizzle on the 3rd before a weak cold front delivered some measurable rain and drizzle later on the 4th.

As the continental high edged east, we found ourselves between another high to the SW and a low over Iceland, giving us light winds and clear skies as the sun rose on the 5th. Increasing high cloud through the day produced conditions for the optical phenomena known as a solar halo. Consecutive daily maximum temperatures exceeded 10°C, above average for the month of February, usually the coolest of the year.

High pressure prevailed into the 6th, now centred over the UK with a setup that would ordinarily bring very cold air from the east. Whilst it did feel cool in the freshening easterly, the airmass over Europe was not particularly cold for the time of year.

In the early hours of Friday 7th, rain showers arrived, at times interspersed with hail. This turned to more persistent rain heading into the evening and continued through to the 8th becoming heavier around midday, delivering a 24 hour total close to 14mm. As the cold front cleared through, it pulled down some cold arctic air and briefly brought the overnight air temperature down to 1.0°C, with ground temperatures dropping below zero giving a frost in sheltered places. Sunrise on the 9th welcomed a fine but cool day, and with the just the odd shower, this turned out to be the best day of the weekend.

Bordeaux Harbour in the sunshine, with Cumulus and Stratocumulus over Herm.



With high pressure shifting slightly north, an easterly flow was now well established and with it cold air was to become embedded in the days following. An occlusion positioned over the south coast of England delivered a morning of rain on the 10th, followed by the odd shower that evening – it then remained dry until the early hours of Valentine's Day. The next 3 days played out like a stuck record in terms of the set up, with light to moderate easterlies preventing the temperature rising any higher than 8°C, and certainly feeling colder in the wind and under cloudy skies. Wednesday 12th provided some respite from the gloom before the cloud returned on the 13th. As high pressure shifted even further north, this allowed fronts associated with a shallow low in the North Atlantic to edge towards the southwest of the UK. Rain and then drizzle arrived in the early hours of the 14th, with gusty winds making for a bitterly cold morning. With a veering of the wind to a southerly direction later that afternoon, the maximum temperature (7.2°C) for the day was, unusually, recorded a few hours after sunset.

A battle between high pressure over northern Europe and low pressure in the north Atlantic left us in an area of rather benign weather, the 15th, 16th, 17th and 18th were dominated by cloudy skies and average temperatures, with occasional hazy brightness through the high cloud. Any fronts that did progress eastwards weakened as they did so, with one delivering patchy light rain on the morning of the 17th. Further spells of light rain and drizzle on the following days broke the monotony, accompanied by a brief spell of mist and hill fog as the latest weak front to cross the Channel developed a wave.

Entering the final third of the shortest month, high pressure situated over Europe had dominated the weather up to now, giving us a relatively settled period of weather and winds generally from an easterly direction, interrupted at times by weakening fronts crossing the British Isles. As the high gradually shifted further east, warmer Atlantic air arrived in the Bailiwick and an expansive warm sector gave for a more prolonged period of rain later on the 21st into the early hours of the following day. The accompanying southerly winds gave us the highest temperature of the year (to date), 12.7°C, significantly above the seasonal average.

A deep low over Iceland, with fronts extending over the UK, through France and Spain, signalled a change to our weather. Having delivered 9.6mm of rain the previous day, the passing of the cold front ushered in clearer skies and we were treated to a fine and sunny afternoon on the 22nd – almost feeling spring-like. It wasn't to last.

The new week started with a morning of rain, heavy at times, drizzle and mist – and yet more cloud. The 24th turned out to be a day of two halves though, with plentiful sunshine through the afternoon and a clear start to the evening. As low pressure crossed the Bay of Biscay, a spell of heavy rain through the early hours of the 25th was again followed by a fine and sunny afternoon, and distant showers that occasionally threatened the islands'. With each day now adding an extra 5 minutes of daylight, a full 8 hours of sunshine was recorded for the first time since October.

Early on the 26th, a veil of medium and high level cloud, associated with a shallow low centered to the west of Spain, was soon replaced by lowering cloud and the inevitable rain and mist. As the front cleared, around midday, fresher air brought an afternoon of sunshine with just the odd gusty shower.

A building ridge of high pressure was now extending over the British Isles and this would persist for the final days of meteorological winter. Lengthening sunny days on 27th and 28th contributed to the final week of this month providing almost half of the monthly sunshine total, and it was certainly starting to feel more spring like, during day time hours at least.

After the mildest February on record in 2024, this year's was closer to but still 0.3°C above the long term average. Notably, air temperatures remained positive throughout meaning that temperatures did not dip below zero this winter. With predominantly continental high pressure in charge through the month, it turned out to be one with few significant low pressure systems and no named storms affecting the Channel Islands.

Winter 2024-25 as a whole turned out to be very close to average in the headline statistics. After a very wet January, a welcome drier month in February contributed to near average seasonal rainfall.

| Winter | 2024/25 | 30 Yr Avg | Anomaly/% |
|---------------|---------|-----------|-----------|
| Rain (mm) | 297.1 | 283.1 | 126.4 |
| Sun (hrs) | 192.0 | 207.3 | 83.0 |
| Mean Max (°C) | 9.4 | 9.2 | +0.2 |
| Mean Min (°C) | 5.6 | 5.5 | +0.1 |
| Mean (°C) | 7.5 | 7.4 | +0.1 |

2025

| DAY | DATE | BAROMETER | TEMPERATURE deg C | | | | | | WIND | | | | RAIN | SUN | WEATHER | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------|-------------------|-------|-----------|--------------|--------|----------------|--------------|--------------|-------|---------------|----------|---------|---|----------|--------------|-----------|
| | | | AIR | | | GRASS | SOIL | | DIR'N | SPEED(knots) | | | | | | | | |
| | | | hPa | MAX | MIN | | MEAN | MIN | | 30cm | 100cm | 9a.m. | | | | 9a.m. | MEAN | MAX |
| | | at 9a.m. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sat | 1 | 1028.3 | 8.0 | 5.0 | 6.5 | 2.5 | 7.6 | 8.9 | 110 | 05 | 7.5 | 19 | NIL | NIL | Cloudy. | | | |
| Sun | 2 | 1020.3 | 7.4 | 3.5 | 5.5 | 2.1 | 7.2 | 8.9 | 160 | 11 | 11.1 | 24 | TR | 5.6 | Mainly cldy occ fair am. Bec fair/fine pm. | | | |
| Mon | 3 | 1026.3 | 9.5 | 5.4 | 7.5 | 2.9 | 7.3 | 8.9 | 190 | 12 | 8.8 | 22 | TR | NIL | Cloudy w with drizzle early eve. | | | |
| Tue | 4 | 1024.2 | 11.0 | 7.3 | 9.2 | 5.4 | 7.8 | 8.9 | 180 | 16 | 12.0 | 25 | 2.1 | 2.6 | Cldy, bright spells mid morn, rain (occ hvy), driz, mist mid-aft to eve | | | |
| Wed | 5 | 1038.5 | 11.2 | 6.4 | 8.8 | 0.8 | 7.4 | 8.9 | 260 | 03 | 4.4 | 10 | NIL | 4.8 | Fine early, bec cldy w with xtnsv high cloud throughout the day. | | | |
| Thu | 6 | 1040.5 | 9.2 | 6.0 | 7.6 | 4.7 | 7.7 | 8.9 | 060 | 11 | 12.4 | 31 | 1.9 | 6.5 | Mainly fair, occ fine, bec cldy late eve w with shw rs, occ hail. | | | |
| Fri | 7 | 1022.1 | 6.4 | 2.5 | 4.5 | 2.5 | 7.2 | 8.9 | 070 | 12 | 10.9 | 29 | 5.2 | 2.1 | Mainly cldy w with freq rain/hail shw rs turning to a longer spell of rain. | | | |
| Sat | 8 | 1014.3 | 6.1 | 3.7 | 4.9 | 3.5 | 7.3 | 8.9 | 210 | 03 | 5.1 | 13 | 9.3 | NIL | Cloudy w with persistent rain until eve. | | | |
| Sun | 9 | 1025.2 | 8.0 | 1.0 | 4.5 | -0.8 | 6.4 | 8.8 | 050 | 04 | 7.1 | 23 | 3.3 | 5.7 | Mainly fair w with some longer bright spells and the odd shower | | | |
| Mon | 10 | 1021.7 | 6.0 | 3.2 | 4.6 | 1.5 | 6.6 | 8.7 | 070 | 09 | 8.2 | 25 | 1.8 | NIL | Cldy, iso shw rs soon turning to rain, shw rs again by eve | | | |
| Tue | 11 | 1019.6 | 6.1 | 3.2 | 4.7 | 3.2 | 6.7 | 8.6 | 040 | 01 | 5.0 | 14 | NIL | NIL | A cloudy day, becming fine by mid evening. | | | |
| Wed | 12 | 1017.1 | 7.8 | 2.9 | 5.4 | 1.3 | 6.3 | 8.6 | 080 | 10 | 10.0 | 23 | NIL | 6.1 | Mainly fine, occ fair/cldy. | | | |
| Thu | 13 | 1021.2 | 7.8 | 5.0 | 6.4 | 2.5 | 6.7 | 8.5 | 090 | 12 | 12.1 | 26 | 3.1 | 1.0 | Cloudy w with sunny spells | | | |
| Fri | 14 | 1020.8 | 7.2 | 3.7 | 5.5 | 3.6 | 6.6 | 8.4 | 120 | 18 | 18.0 | 30 | TR | NIL | Cloudy w with rain and drizzle until mid morning | | | |
| Sat | 15 | 1018.5 | 7.5 | 4.9 | 6.2 | 4.3 | 6.8 | 8.4 | 160 | 16 | 12.9 | 24 | NIL | 1.6 | Brief light rain early, cldy but bright w ith hazy sunshine | | | |
| Sun | 16 | 1016.0 | 7.6 | 2.2 | 4.9 | 1.1 | 6.4 | 8.4 | 090 | 12 | 12.0 | 24 | 0.4 | 2.2 | Fair early am, bec cldy but bright w ith extensive high cloud. | | | |
| Mon | 17 | 1019.1 | 7.8 | 4.2 | 6.0 | 2.9 | 6.7 | 8.4 | 130 | 08 | 10.9 | 18 | NIL | 2.2 | Mainly cldy, light rain follow ed by a brief fine spell am. | | | |
| Tue | 18 | 1016.9 | 9.2 | 4.6 | 6.9 | 3.2 | 7.1 | 8.3 | 110 | 11 | 12.4 | 24 | TR | 3.1 | Mainly high cld throughout the day, early morning haze. | | | |
| Wed | 19 | 1013.4 | 10.9 | 7.0 | 9.0 | 5.0 | 7.3 | 8.4 | 150 | 10 | 11.2 | 22 | 0.9 | 1.1 | Cloudy w with haze, sunny spells pm. | | | |
| Thu | 20 | 1015.6 | 11.5 | 10.1 | 10.8 | 7.3 | 8.2 | 8.4 | 180 | 16 | 12.7 | 25 | 1.2 | NIL | Ovcst, patchy rain, drizzle, mist and fog patches | | | |
| Fri | 21 | 1008.8 | 12.7 | 10.3 | 11.5 | 9.2 | 8.8 | 8.5 | 150 | 17 | 14.5 | 32 | 9.6 | 0.4 | Cldy w ith oddy sunny spell, rain through aft into eve. Mist & hill fog. | | | |
| Sat | 22 | 1013.5 | 12.6 | 8.4 | 10.5 | 8.3 | 9.1 | 8.6 | 260 | 10 | 9.8 | 21 | 0.1(dew) | 5.6 | Cldy, shw rs and fog early am, mist clrng late morn bec fine by mid pm. | | | |
| Sun | 23 | 1023.8 | 11.2 | 7.8 | 9.5 | 5.6 | 9.0 | 8.8 | 180 | 16 | 15.1 | 27 | 13.6 | 0.4 | Mainly cldy/ovc w ith dew & fog before daw n, int rain from early pm. | | | |
| Mon | 24 | 1014.7 | 12.3 | 8.7 | 10.5 | 9.0 | 9.2 | 8.9 | 220 | 14 | 13.7 | 30 | 5.5 | 5.1 | Cloudy w with rain/drizzle bec fine/sunny | | | |
| Tue | 25 | 1015.2 | 10.7 | 6.0 | 8.4 | 6.2 | 9.2 | 9.1 | 250 | 12 | 11.2 | 27 | 0.2 | 8.0 | Cldy w ith rain early am, clearing by late morning, fine and sunny pm | | | |
| Wed | 26 | 1015.5 | 10.6 | 5.7 | 8.2 | 4.1 | 8.8 | 9.2 | 200 | 17 | 14.9 | 32 | 2.4 | 4.9 | Cldy, isolated shw rs then rain until midday, bec fair with sunny periods | | | |
| Thu | 27 | 1022.0 | 9.2 | 5.3 | 7.3 | 3.9 | 8.5 | 9.2 | 330 | 09 | 8.5 | 20 | NIL | 8.0 | Cldy, brief shw r early am, becmg fair and fine by early afternoon. | | | |
| Fri | 28 | 1029.3 | 10.2 | 3.9 | 7.1 | 0.4 | 7.7 | 9.2 | 030 | 05 | 5.7 | 15 | 0.7 | 9.4 | Mainly fine, occ fair early pm. | | | |
| MEAN | | 1020.8 | 9.1 | 5.3 | 7.2 | 3.8 | 7.6 | 8.7 | E/S | 10.7 | 10.6 | TOTAL | 61.3 | 86.4 | | | | |
| 30 YEAR AVG | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1991-2020 | | 1017.8 | 8.8 | 4.9 | 6.9 | 2.5 | 7.0 | 8.0 | SW | 12.5 | 12.6 | //// | 75.8 | 87.0 | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| EXTREMES ARE IN BOLD TYPE | NUMBER OF DAYS WITH | RAIN | WET | SNOW/ | HAIL | THNDR | LGHTNG | AIR | GROUND | FOG | FOG | GALE | NO | | | | | |
| | | ≥0.2mm | ≥1.0mm | SLEET | | | | FROST | FROST | | 9a.m. | | SUN | | | | | |
| | | 16 | 12 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 7 | | | | | |
| TOTALS FOR YEAR TO DATE | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| RECORDS FROM JANUARY 1947 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | RAINFALL | 218.8 mm | SUNSHINE | 164.0 hrs |
| WETTEST DAY | | 59.0mm | DRIEST MONTH | | 4.8mm | LOWEST MIN | | -7.2°C | WARMEST MNTH | | 9.4°C | SUNNIEST MNTH | | 150.5 | RAIN DAYS | 35 | SUNLESS DAYS | 18 |
| DAY/YEAR | | 18th/1978 | YEAR | | 1965 | DAY/YEAR | | 21st/48,7th/91 | YEAR | | 2024 | YEAR | | 2019 | WET DAYS | 29 | | |
| WETTEST MNTH | | 182.8mm | HIGHEST MAX | | 16.1°C | LOWEST GRASS | | -11.1°C | COLDEST MNTH | | 1.5°C | DULLEST MNTH | | 36.1hrs | | | | |
| YEAR | | 1978 | DAY/YEAR | | 27th/2019 | DAY/YEAR | | 12th/1978 | YEAR | | 1986 | YEAR | | 1976 | | | | |

