

## January 2022 weather summary

**Exceptionally dry, below normal temperature and very sunny.**

**Rainfall:** 17.5mm (25% of normal).

It was the driest January since 1997 (16.1mm) and the 6<sup>th</sup> driest in 101 years. The wettest day was only 3.2mm on 8<sup>th</sup>. This makes it the lowest recorded 'wettest January day' on RECORD.

There were 13 'rain days' (0.2mm or more), this was 5 days less than normal but only the lowest since 2019. There were 7 'wet days' (1.0mm or more), this was also 5 days less than normal and again the lowest since 2019. However, daily totals of 5mm or more were zero and 5 days lower than normal and the lowest since 2005 and before that 1992.

### **The last 3 months - (November – December - January)**

The 3-month period total was 97.7mm (46% of normal), making it the driest since 1991 and the 5<sup>th</sup> driest in 101 years. The monthly totals were November 15.7mm (20%), December 64.5mm (96%) and January 17.5mm (25%).

The **12-month period** (February 2021 to January 2022) provides a total of 613.3mm (88% of average). This period includes the 12<sup>th</sup> driest April and 3<sup>rd</sup> driest November and the 6<sup>th</sup> driest January in the last 100 years.

### **Temperature:**

The mean maxima were 8.1c (+0.1c above normal). The highest maximum temperature was 14.8 (1<sup>st</sup>), the highest January reading since 14.9c on 9<sup>th</sup> 1998 (and equal with 9<sup>th</sup> 2015). The 14.8c reading was the second highest in over 100 years behind 14.9c in 1998.

The lowest maximum was 3.9c on 25<sup>th</sup>.

The lowest maximum temperature was 4.8c (2<sup>nd</sup>) and this was the highest since 2015 (9.2c on 13<sup>th</sup>).

The mean minima were 0.9c (-1.3c below normal), the lowest since 2017, and before that 2010.

The lowest minimum was -5.1c (6<sup>th</sup>), the lowest since 2019. The highest minimum was an exceptionally mild 11.8c (1<sup>st</sup>). This was the second highest in over 101 years (equal with 2015).

The lowest grass minimum recorded was -8.9c (6<sup>th</sup>).

There were 16 air frosts, which is 6 days more than normal, and it was the highest number of air frosts since 2017. There were 22 ground frosts, the highest number since 2010 (equal with 2017).

### **The last 3 months - (November – December – January)**

The 3-month period indicates a mean maxima of 12.2c (+0.4c), making it the mildest since 2019.

The mean minima were 3.6c (0.0c), making it also the coldest since 2016.

**Sunshine:** 90.2 hours (139% of normal)

The sunniest January since 2012 (92.2 hours), and the 3<sup>rd</sup> sunniest in the last 60 years (2003 with 100.4 hours remains the sunniest). The number of sunless days was 8, 2 days lower than normal and the lowest since 2014 (7 days). However, there were 9 days with 5.0 hours or more 4 days above normal, and the highest since 2017.

The sunniest day was 7.5 hours (14<sup>th</sup>). What is noteworthy is the first half of January 91<sup>st</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup>) recorded 42.7 hours which exceeded the whole of January 2021 (38.7 hours).

**Thunder;** there was zero days with thunder heard.

**Hail;** there was 0 days with hail.

**Snow falling** 2 days (1 day less than normal). **Snow lying** at 0900 GMT 0 days (1 day less than normal)

**Fog;** at the 0900am observation there were 3 days with fog observed at 09:00 GMT. This is 1 day more than normal.

**Wind gusts (at or above 50km/hr)** There were 2 days with a wind gust at or above 50km/hr on 29<sup>th</sup> (55km/hr) when STORM Malik impacted on Scotland and the northern area of England and 30<sup>th</sup> (53KM/hr) when STORM Corrie caught a similar area.

The month overall was very calm, and it was the dominant feature at 09:00 GMT. Some days such as 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> only recorded a highest gust of 3KM/hr.

**Wind direction (at 0900am observation GMT)**

N	0.0%	E	3.2%	S	3.2%	W	0.0%	Calm	38.7%
NNE	3.2%	ESE	0.0%	SSW	6.5%	WNW	6.5%		
NE	0.0%	SE	3.2%	SW	12.9%	NW	3.2%		
ENE	3.2%	SSE	6.5%	WSW	9.7%	NNW	0.0%		

**Pressure waves from the Tonga volcanic eruption on 15th January 2022 'felt' here in Wokingham.**

There was a significant volcanic eruption near Tonga around 0410 UTC on Saturday 15th January.

From that eruption there followed atmospheric waves, that travelled at the speed of sound (310m/s) that were distinguishable in the UK, some 16,000 km away.

These rapid changes in atmospheric pressure were captured on air pressure equipment and posted on local Facebook pages on 17<sup>th</sup> January. There was an initial pressure pulse of about a millibar followed shortly afterwards by a rapid drop in pressure of about twice that, starting just before 1900 UTC on 15th January. Subsequent waves are also visible on the pressure graph for at least 12 hours afterwards.



**Photo: Valley fog at dawn on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022 taken from Rectory Lane Finchampstead. Courtesy of Paul Richards.**