

January 2023 weather summary

Very wet and mild at first, then very dry and cold but overall sunny

Rainfall: 75.6mm (110% of normal).

Rainfall overall was slightly more than normal, but the month was divided into two clearly separate parts, the 1st to 15th totalled 74.4mm making it the 2nd wettest start to a January in at least 102 years. However, the 16th to 31st only recorded 1.2mm making it one of the driest in the same period.

The River Loddon had already burst its banks early in the month but this forced the closure of Mill Lane and Sandford Lane on 9th and 10th and again from 15th until at least 19th as although the river water had receded the remaining surface water and cold temperatures caused ice issues.

The wettest day was 12.5mm (15th), closely followed by 11.0mm on 8th. Many wetter days have occurred recently in January including 2018 to 2020.

The number of rain days (0.2mm or more), were 17 (1 less than average), and 2021 was higher. The number of wet days (1.0mm or more) were 14 days (2 more than normal), again the 2021 was higher. However, falls of 10mm or more totalled 3 days the highest since 2016.

The longest period with no measurable rainfall was 9 days (16th to 24th).

3 - months (November – December - January)

The last 3 months total, covering November and December 2022 plus January 2023 totals 268.2mm 125% of normal. That makes it the 10th wettest in 102 years.

The monthly totals were November 123.5mm (158%) December 69.1mm (102%) and January 75.6mm (110%).

12 months (February to December 2022 plus January 2023)

The past 12 months, with such a wet Autumn and wet December and January period now stands at 670.7mm that is 96% of normal. This is quite a change as the 12 month period has 'lost' the very dry January 2022 but gained the slightly wet January 2023

Temperature: 3rd mildest start, but 6th coldest end to a January in 42 years

The mean maxima were 8.2c (+0.1c above normal). The same temperature as 2022 but several recent years have been higher 2018 and 2020. The mildest first half of January since 2007 and the 3rd mildest in at least 42 years. However, the second half of the month saw arctic air return, similar to December, with the first freezing day since 2013. And only the 3rd this millennium. Overall, it was the 6th coldest 2nd half of the month in 42 years.

The highest maximum temperature was 13.2c (4th), which is 6.3c above the average for that date. The lowest maximum was -0.3c (17th) the lowest since 2013 and 8.2c below the average maximum temperature for that date.

The mean minima were 2.1 (-0.1c below normal). This was the mildest since 2020. However, the month like with the maxima was very different. The first half 6.0c was the mildest since 2007 and the 2nd

mildest in 42 years. However, the 2nd half was -1.7c and this made it the coldest since 2017, and the 3rd coldest in 42 years.

The highest minimum for this January was 9.7c on 5th.

The lowest minimum was minus 6.5c (22nd), the lowest recorded since 2015, but some way short of the minus 14.9c in 1982.

The mean temperature after influencing two extremes as described above was 5.1c (0.0c normal).

The lowest grass minimum recorded was -8.9c (17th and 22nd). There were 14 ground frosts this was lowest since 2020.

There were 11 air frosts, which is 2 days more normal, and 10 other years had a higher number of frosts this millennium.

The last 3 months - (November - December) – January 2023

The 3-month period indicates a mean maxima of 9.4c (+0.2c), making it cooler than 2022 but before that milder since 2016.

The 3-month period indicates a mean minima of 3.4c (+0.3)

Sunshine: 88.1 hours (137% of normal)

Sunshine was above normal, and the 5th highest January total since 1991. There were 7 sunless days (3 less than normal).

There were 10 days with 5.0 hours or more (5 days above normal), and the highest since 2017 and 3rd highest since 1991.

The sunniest day was 7.5 hours (20th).

Thunder; there was 1 day with thunder heard (8th distant).

Hail; there was 1 day with hail (<5mm).

Snow falling 0 days with snow falling (3 days below normal). **Snow lying** at 0900 GMT 0 days (1 day below normal)

Fog; at the 0900am observation there were 3 days with fog observed (1 day more than normal). However, with the cold conditions on the 22nd, 23rd and 25th the fog was freezing depositing rime on certain surfaces including trees (see photo).

Storms

There were no named storms during January. The highest wind gust was 60km/hr (W'ly) on 13th.

Wind direction (at 0900am observation GMT)

N	3.2%	E	0.0%	S	0.0%	W	9.7%	Calm	16.1%
NNE	3.2%	ESE	0.0%	SSW	29.0%	WNW	3.2%		
NE	3.2%	SE	6.5%	SW	0.0%	NW	3.2%		
ENE	0.0%	SSE	12.9%	WSW	3.2%	NNW	6.5%		



Photo: The Walter Oak Bearwood Recreation Ground Sindlesham 23rd January with a heavy deposit of rime.