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February drier and milder

conditions of December and early January did not continue into February, the or 87 per cent of the normal

Thankfully, the harsh month ending up far milder and drier than usual. With 47mm (1.84in) of rain

> fall, February was the driest for six years. Rain fell for a duration of 39 hours on 12 days with nine being 'wet' and two 'very wet.'

> Snow was limited to one day, though flakes were observed on three occasions.

> Temperatures have all been well above average, the mean daily of 4.6C (40F) being 1C up on usual.

> The warmest day was the ninth with 14.4C (58F), giving the highest February temperature for 22 years. The coldest night,

February 23, had an air minimum of minus 3.5C (26F), the grmss minimum being minus 6.5C (20F). All temperatures currently well up on normal. Sunshine has been sparse.

the total of 32 hours being only 57 per cent of expectation, the sunniest day being the 14th with 6.5 hours. In fact 14 days had no sun and 18 mornings were

completely overcast. Winds have been quite fresh, a total run of 6971 miles of predominantly southerly winds being recorded at 9 mph average speed. Though no gales were recorded, gale

force gusts of 39 mph oc-

curred on the 12th. With 16 ground and six air frosts. February has been a fairly mild, though very dull month, in a winter which ranks seventh in severity in the past 27 years.