
Third coldest Feb this century

February was cold throughout, only the first four days being frost-free.

Temperatures failed to rise above 4.3C (38F) at all during the month, this on the 24th and 28th.

It has been the third coldest February this century overall, and the coldest night, the 21st had a minimum air temperature of -10.4C (13.3F) against the -11.6C (11.1F) recorded in February last year.

Snow fell on 8 occasions and lay on 16 days, though not to any great depth. The February of 1947 saw undrifted snow depths of almost 3 feet and drifts of over 18 feet in outlying districts and rural areas.

Total rainfall was low, with only 10.4mm (0.41in) recorded, making this the driest February since 1965 and the third driest since 1946.

Sunshine has been well above average, almost 80 hours being recorded and with almost 27 hours of this over the final three days. This gave the sunniest February since 1970.

Frost was recorded on 25 nights, and at the height of the cold spell the ground was frozen to a total depth of 18cm (7in) where the sun caught it, but to a depth of 30cm (1ft) in permanent shade.
