

GENERAL COMMENTS ON THE MONTH.

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It has been the third wettest January in 50 years lying behind 1960 and 1986. Rain fell on 22 days for a total of 111 hours, 19 days being wet (more than 2mm) and 9 very wet (more than 5mm). Despite this there was 10% more sunshine than average though the number of days without sun was also 10% above normal. This was due to days when the sun shone being much sunnier than usual. Such are the vagaries of the British climate.

January was not a cold month, temperatures ending slightly above the 30-year means. Ground frost occurred on 20 nights and air frost on 10.

However, it was a very unsettled month, winds gusting above gale force on 8 days reaching 44 knots on the 19th as a succession of low pressure areas crossed the country.

Snow lay on 3 days to a maximum depth of 2cm, with snow or sleet occurring