

Rode Weather Report for January 2024

The following is a summary of the key readings on my Davis Vantage Vue weather station located in the middle of our back garden in Rode.

I have put the readings in a table and shown the equivalent readings since my first January readings in 2021 after I had installed the system.

January Readings

| | 2024 | 2023 | 2022 | 2021 |
|---------------------|------------|---------------|------------|--------------|
| Average Maximum | 8°C | 8°C | 8°C | 7°C |
| Average Minimum | 2°C | 1°C | 1°C | 1°C |
| Max Temp/dates | 14°C 23 | 13°C 4,5,10, | 14°C 1 | 12°C 28 |
| Min Temp/dates | -8°C 18 | -6°C 17,22,24 | -6°C 21 | -5°C 1 |
| Total Rain | 99.4mm | 130.8mm | 35.4mm | 102.6mm |
| Max 24hr Rain | 36.8mm 3-4 | 33.2mm 11-12 | 13.0mm 6-7 | 23.6mm 19-20 |
| Days with Zero rain | 20 | 8 | 13 | 8 |

Last January Mike Cooper gave the 23 year average Frome rainfall for January as 91.93mm.

January started exceptionally wet with 63.8mm falling in the first 4 days caused by storm Henk. Then, like December, there was a long dry spell with no rain for 15 days. The dry spell was also chilly, with a prolonged period of cold northerly winds. While these brought snow to the highlands of Scotland and the hills of northern England, by the time they reached us most of the moisture had gone giving bright or sunny days. Daytime temperatures were frequently in low single figures followed by night frosts. The lowest night temperature recorded was -8C on 18th.

This calm ended abruptly on the 19th with the arrival of two more named storms in quick succession, Isha and Jocelyn. The Met Office gives names to storms that have “the potential to cause disruption or damage which could result in an amber or red warning”. Since last September the UK has experienced an unusually large number of them – 10 – ranging from Agnes (25/9/23) to Jocelyn (22/1/24). Just in the last 24 hours we’ve seen a shipping forecast for sea area Faeroes of hurricane force 12!

There is more on Henk, Isha and Jocelyn on the Met Office’s website:

<https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/warnings-and-advice/uk-storm-centre/index>

Click the storm name to see more detail.

The cold air over N. America mentioned on the website was experienced by a close friend who lives in a town just outside Denver, Colorado. On the 13th Jan he woke to see his weather station reading -25C and a wind chill of -32C, the coldest he has ever experienced.

Statistically on average the end of January/beginning of February is the coldest time of the year in the UK. Wikipedia gives the 20 year mean daily temperature of 7.21C for January and 7.78C for February.

Terry Morrow - 1/2/2024