

# Rode Weather Report for March 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 March readings in 2021 after I had installed the system.

## March Readings

	2024	2023	2022	2021
Average Maximum	12°C	11°C	13°C	12°C
Average Minimum	4°C	4°C	3°C	3°C
Max Temp/dates	16°C 17,19,20,30	16°C 21	20°C 23,24	19°C 29
Min Temp/dates	-3°C 4	-2°C 10,11	-1°C 25	-3°C 6,7,8
Total Rain	117.0mm	144.8mm	65.6mm	75.0mm
Max 24hr Rain	30.6mm 27-28	26.2mm 8-9	17.2mm 11-12	21.8mm 2-3
Days with Zero rain	8	5	15	20

March felt like another wet month, but my recent statistics don't seem to support that. March last year was much wetter. We did though have a couple of particularly wet spells. A total of 29.4mm fell over the 1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> of the month, and another 35.2 fell over the two days 27<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>. Those 4 days accounted for more than half the month's total.

Last year though Michael Cooper reported that March 2023 was the wettest since he had started recording data in 2002. So if we compare this year with 2022 and 2021, this has been a pretty wet March. There were only 8 dry days compared with 15 and 20 in 2022 and 2021.

In fact, looking back at Michael Cooper's March 2022 report, he said then that the 21 year average Frome March rainfall was 63mm, so 117mm is well over that.

Much of the wetness seems to have been caused by a persistent area of low pressure to the west of the British Isles which didn't seem in any hurry to move on. We more commonly experience sequences of depressions passing west to east over our islands. But this came to a halt for a period last month.

I am writing this at the end of the first week of April having experienced some exceptionally strong winds. No doubt I will write more on this in next month's report.

Finally, Michael Cooper included this historical note in March last year:

Some 70 years ago, although the March of 1952 had been mild for much of the month, on Saturday March 29<sup>th</sup>, a tremendous blizzard struck south and south west England. It resulted in 330 main roads becoming blocked. (Ref: "The Times" Weather Eye)

In contrast our winter this year has been very mild with little or no snow, at least here in Rode.

Terry Morrow - 8/4/2024