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I sit here on the 20th December writing this bulletin. Tomorrow, 21st, is the quarter day and where the wind blows this day it remains the predominant direction until 21st March (equinox and next quarter day).

I base all my methodology on fact, therefore, since there is much data already there, I expect that the wind on the 21st will blow from the SW, and as such the prediction of 'a not as cold as last year winter,' holds well; with the wind on the 11th November blowing from the SW too, these two major facts combine to give a safe wind indication of SW until at least 21st March - and since I already know that March will be very wet, then the prominent direction will be SW through to at least 25th May 2013.

The promised (massive newspaper headlines) coldest winter for 100 years will not materialise, a walk across the fields shows this, since catkins, lesser celandine flowers, white nettles are all flowering and primroses are ready to burst forth. Unless you leave the air-conditioned office, the computer and such comforts, to take a walk, feel the wind on your face and see what nature is telling us, the chances of getting a correct forecast are never ever going to be good.

A fascinating point is that the holly berries were late arriving and as soon as they ripened they were consumed by the birds. There is a saying that says that holly berries at Christmas will feed the birds in the severe weather after the festival - there are no holly berries out there - therefore nature tells me, it will not be a severe winter.

Two small but very significant items during the late November early December period, the first was that hurricane Sandy in the USA, fell within the moon/ apogee period more or less ensuring a natural catastrophe within that 12 hour period - it was.

The second was the item also concerned perigee and new moon sequence on the 12th/13th December, again well within the 'natural disaster' parameters ; and for me the significance was that this was an exceptionally high too with a supermoon - a preponderance for flooding therefore a major concern. The BBC 1 TV breakfast weather lady, Carol Kirkland, mentioned this flooding danger, which is the first time I have ever heard such a warning given; well done BBC weather, somewhere, someone looks at this site and realises that I do some things correct. There was indeed flooding in some parts as a result of this event.

Welcome to the January entry to the website. January is an interesting month for the prediction skills, and, as you will see the pencil and paper will be much in use. For there are several days that give some indicators as the year ahead; however a word of caution here, I do not classify the events of the 8th to the 12th as primary saws in the accepted sense, there are far too many variables to affect the result. But, having said that over some 25 years these advance sayings are just over 80% correct, so good enough to be noted (the Met Office are achieving 70/75% accuracy).

St Vincent on 22nd is interesting and if the omens fall into place quite accurate, it is amongst one of the finer, quiet, dry days of the month and one of the primary saws of the month, most interesting for the wine makers in particular.

St Paul's day aka St Annanias on the 25th, also Burns night, is the Day of Prediction and reasonable good as a predictor for the next six months – note too the other parts of this saw/saying concerning other types of weather.

There is a snow moon on the 6th too – note well the sayings connected with snow in this month's data, all contain good forward information. Concerning snow, whilst there have been numerous press reports of cold temperatures down to maybe -18C (colder than 2012 at -12C), all my data, and all that nature provides does not back such revelations up. There is the possibility of some snow too in February, this however is subject to some conditions that normally do not occur in February (SW winds), especially here in the SE, and whilst I use the moon phases and the related weather with considerable success, as I have stated elsewhere, I follow the trail my data leads, to vary from this trail makes the whole exercise invalid.

Just look at the October moons where snow was a moon forecast and, as night follows day, sure enough once again, despite being unseasonable or even thought to be rather unlikely, the moon phases have an unfailing accuracy proven year after year.

South of the Watford gap I do not expect any significant snow falls for winter 2013, dampness and train will be the problems.

Finally - the rant concerning the flail tractors and their decimation of the hedgerows in the last bulletin - it is good to see such established 'country writers' as Robin Page in the Daily Telegraph also having a 'pop' at such practices.

JANUARY 2013

DAY OF PREDICTION: 25th LAST QUARTER: 6th = 03.58hrs Snow/stormy

NEW: 11th = 19.44hrs Fair (frost if wind N/NE) 1st Quarter: 18th = 23.45hrs = Fair & frosty

FULL: 27th = 04.39hrs = Rain.

1st	Calends	If Janiver Calends be summerly gay, wintery weather will continue to Calends of May. See rhyme below.
2nd		As the weather today so in September.
3rd		It will be the same weather for 9 weeks as it is on the 9th day after Christmas.
5th	Twelfth Night	
6th	Epiphany	The days are lengthened a cocks stride.
8th		Weather before noon fortells June, weather after noon that of May.
9th	Plough Monday	Weather before noon fortells August, weather afternoon that of July
10th	Perigee 10.27	Weather before noon fortells October, after noon that of September.
11th		Weather before noon fortells December, after noon that of November.
12th		If the sun shines this day it foreshadows much wind.
13th	St Hilary	Fortells the weather for the whole year - often considered the coldest and/or the wettest day of the year. [reliable] Homage day to the apple tree.
15th	St Paul the Hermit	If rain or snow on this day, there will be a blessing on the year.
17th	St Sulphicius	Frost augers well for the spring.
19th-31st		See rhyme below
22nd	St Vincent Apogee 10.53hrs	If the sky is clear, more wine than water will crown the year. If the sun shines today, (it foreshadows much wind and prosperous weather all year.
25th	St Paul	It is said to predict the weather for the whole year ahead [it is good for 6 months, but found to tail off a bit after that] Day of Prediction Also know as St Annanias Day and Egyptian Day. Burns Night. By far the most important day of the year
31st		Hazel tree in first flower.

MET OFFICE NOTES: 5th – 17th Stormy. 18th - 24th Quiet. 25th – 31st Stormy again.

NO BUCHAN NOTES; Tree of the month up to 15th is Birch, thereafter the Rowan.

General Notes and Comments

As days lengthen so cold strengthens. The blackest month of the year.

In winter, after the prevalence of easterly winds, if the barometer begins to fall and the thermometer to rise, a gale which starts to blow from the SE will veer to the SW, whilst the barometer falls constantly.

As soon as the wind passes the SW point the barometer begins to rise, a heavy shower of rain falls, and a strong W/NW or NE wind may follow, after which, the sky clears and the weather becomes colder.[This is an exact UK weather pattern and true]

A January spring is worth nothing.

If no snow before the end of January there will be more in March & April.

1st - If this be a Sunday, winter will be cold and moist, spring windy, the summer hot, and, at harvest time wind and rain with abundance of corn and other grain.

If this be a Monday, severe and confused winter, good spring and windy summer.

If this be a Tuesday, dreary and severe winter. windy spring, rainy summer.

If this a Wednesday, hard winter, bad spring, good summer.

If this be a Thursday, good winter, windy spring, good summer.

If this be a Friday, variable winter, good spring and summer.

If this be a Saturday, snowy winter, blowing spring, wet summer.

Summerish January gives winterish spring.

January commits the fault and May bears the blame.

If January the sun appear, March and April will pay full dear.

When Oak trees bend with snow in January, good crops may be expected.

March in January, January in March.

If grass do grow in Janiveer, 'twill grow the worse for all the year.

If grain grows in January, a year of great need.

If birds begin to whistle, frosts to come.

Dry January plenty of wine. Wet January no wine.

Fog in January brings a wet spring.

Hoar frost and no snow is hurtful to fields, trees and grain.

Wet January, wet spring.

If January is wet the barrels stay empty (wine).

January freeze, the pot on the fire.

Gale force winds are quite common in January.

Remember on St Vincent's Day (22nd), if the sun his beams display,

'Tis a token bright and clear, of prosperous weather throughout the year,

More wine than water, much rye and wine.

St Vincent's is normally a good weather day.

If the birds start singing on St Vincent's day 'twill be an early spring.

St Paul's day is also St Annanias's day (25th).

If the sunshine on St Paul's Day it betokens a good year; if snow or rain an indifferent year. (a bad crop of grain) If cloudy & misty a great dearth and beasts and birds will die, if Thunder great winds are predicted and unrest will vex us all and cold will blow the great winds of January.

Clouds on St Annanias Day portend floods.

St Paul's Day - It is necessary to observe and note down the phases of the day, hour by hour, or, even half an hourly, throughout the day from 6am to 6pm. This is due to the belief that the hours of the day will reflect the weather, month by month throughout the year.

Generally these signs are dependable up to the end of July. However there is much truth in the above and 90% accuracy is quite normal - with 100% one year.

Snow usually falls in the third week of January. If it doesn't fall then, then it won't fall at all.

For farmers it is wise to plan your hay crop now. If the grass is already starting to grow, then do not look for two hay crops this year for the worse it will be alter on, and vice-versa.

The first three days of January rule the coming first three months.

Warm January, cold May.

There will certainly be at least one very cold snap, very likely with snow too. It has been known to arrive as early as Boxing Day (26th December) and as late as the 30th January. It will come and will probably be the worst cold snap of the year. There is much truth in the saying that the hardest winters are those that start around twelfth night (6th), following a dry December. On snow - it is generally unknown, that if snow lies for three days it will require another fall to take it away.

If late October and early November be warm and rainy, then January and February shall be frosty and cold. [check readings from previous year]

When the months of July, August and September are exceptionally hot, January will be the coldest month. [check previous readings]

Windy October - dry January. [check previous readings]

A dry and frosty Janiveer is like to make a plenteous year - a very dependable saying.

19th-31st. These last twelve days of the month rule the weather for the whole year.

MONTHLY AVERAGES FOR EDENBRIDGE (USING 1981-2010 FIGURES)

Mean maximum = 7.8C

Mean minimum =1C

Mean average = 4.4C

Rainfall = 83.6 mm

Sunshine = 69.3 hours

Average temperature at 12 noon and again at 4pm taken at the beginning and end of the month:

1 st	5.8C	5.8C
31 st	5.7C	5.1C

Whilst I appreciate that the above are local figures, it will be an indication of what the averages are, and of course there will be local variations. Such local variations can be found by trawling the various weather websites, or by using the superb data found in the Climatological Observers Link website. @David King

JANUARY 2013 (easy reference spreadsheet.)

Date	Day	Moon/weather	Met Off	Buchan	Other day	Singularities	Eclipse
					DoP Quarter Day New Year/Calends		
1	Tue	FULL/cold&High winds					
2.	Wed	cold & high winds					
3	Thur	cold & high winds					
4	Fri	cold & high winds					
5	Sat	cold & high winds		5-17 th stormy	Twelfth night	stormy 5-16 th 87%	
6	Sun	LAST QUARTER/		stormy	Ephiphany	stormy 87%	
7	Mon	snow/stormy		stormy		stormy 87%	
8	Tue	snow/stormy		stormy		stormy 87%	
9	Wed	snow/stormy		stormy	Plough Monday	stormy 87%	
10	Thur	snow/stormy		stormy	Perigee	stormy 87%	
11	Fri	NEW/fair (FS if wd N/NE)		stormy		stormy 87%	
12	Sat	fair (frost if wind N/NE)		stormy		stormy 87%	
13	Sun	fair (frost if wind N/NE)		stormy	St Hilary	stormy 87%	
14	Mon	fair (frost if wind N/NE)		stormy		stormy 87%	
15	Tue	fair (frost if wind N/NE)		stormy	St Paul the Hermit	stormy 87%	
16	Wed	fair (frost if wind N/NE)		stormy		stormy 87%	
17	Thur	fair (frost if wind N/NE)		stormy	St Sulphicius		
18	Fri	FIRST QUARTER/		18-24 th quiet		anti-cyclonic 18-24th	
19	Sat	fair & frosty		quiet		anti-cyclonic	
20	Sun	fair & frosty		quiet		anti-cyclonic	
21	Mon	fair & frosty		quiet		anti-cyclonic	
22	Tue	fair & frosty		quiet	Apogee/St Vincent	anti-cyclonic	
23	Wed	fair & frosty		quiet		anti-cyclonic	
24	Thur	fair & frosty		quiet		anti-cyclonic	
25	Fri	fair & frosty		25-31 st stormy	St Paul/DoP	stormy 25-31st	
26	Sat	fair & frosty		stormy		stormy	
27	Sun	FULL/rain		stormy		stormy	
28	Mon	rain		stormy		stormy	
29	Tue	rain		stormy		stormy	
30	Wed	rain		stormy		stormy	
31	Thur	rain		stormy		stormy	

No eclipses.

@David King