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JANUARY 2019

PREAMBLE (WIND ON 21st)

I start by wishing all readers everything they wish for and aspire to for the new year of 2019 and thanking you all for interest, mails, missives and readership too.

TREE OF THE MONTH TO THE 20th IS THE BIRCH



Welcome to the January 2019 website entry and we will see what 2019 weather brings us, the autumn was indeed warmer than the norm, and although rain in many places, sadly not enough to allay the dry conditions, it was quite a benign month with less storms too.

Today is 21st December, Quarter day, shortest day of the year, the wind here in the south of the UK is SW and storm is brewing; I listened to the shipping forecast at 5.20am this morning and the general wind direction is SW, the off spots like the extreme north of Scotland it is NW and the extreme east of Scotland it is NE, but for the rest of the UK, WSW or SSW – a warm damp airflow. Therefore it can safely be assumed that the 4 months deep snow and bitter winter lauded in newspaper headlines earlier in the Autumn, plus snow on Christmas Day, can be consigned to yet another weather myth from ‘weather experts.’ A close look at the December website spreadsheet will show that it turned out exactly as predicted – even to the pending storm now brewing – highlighted too.

The methodology here I have to trust, therefore once again I am at odds with all the ‘experts’ who predict another long hard cold winter; my only comment is that I have been doing for many years now and I have yet to record two consecutive cold hard winters, since the methodology has been for the greater part correct for 2017 I see no reason to change the winter prediction – ‘if it ain’t broke then don’t fix it,’ interesting times ahead.

As an adjunct to my dry winter prediction with no cold; earlier in the autumn the hedges were full of hips, haws, and berries etc – the sign normally of a long hard winter; but not this year. As many have mailed and told me, what I too saw here in the SE, the arriving winter migrant birds, were less (25%) in numbers and those that have arrived are very thin – due doubtless to the poor summer conditions in Scandinavia; nature therefore provided additional vital food for these birds to sustain and rebuild them, again months ahead. As a result, the hedgerows now are rather bereft, for the time of year of such berries etc; last winter at this time the hedges were over-stocked with such fruits etc a sign of a hard winter – which predicted and arrived. This year no such abundance, sufficient for a normal or even a milder winter, but certainly not to sustain a long hard cold winter (‘coldest for many years’ – say some ‘experts.’), therefore yet another sign, as the absence of white dead-nettles and robins in the back garden also signify. Therefore once again nature gives the information and the observant ones look seeing and interpret. Computers do not see anything. The abundance of medlar, quince, bullace and other such fruits earlier in the year is now no more; all such fruits already have been consumed by the bird population.

To those that send such vital and interesting data to me, then a massive thank you, please keep it coming; the results appear here, but also on several BBC local radio stations where increasingly I am invited to give short chats. It all spreads the word and creates interest.

Slowly I see too little matters appearing in weather bulletins that originate here, I just conclude therefore that something is slowly seeping through.

Global warming report from the Met Office UKCP18 dated 26/11/2018 gives dire warnings of higher temperatures for the future, based on assessments and forward projections for 2070. As a comparison, the NASA Global Climate Change paper makes interesting reading too - a search of NASA Global Climate Change reports will reveal such reports.

The KOP24 big climate change meeting in Poland in December, a lot of hot air, but no real progress at all and King Coal remains in command, too little, too late, but better than nothing is the comment.

Following on from the above, I have been warning for many months on this website, and elsewhere, of an impending acute water shortage in many parts of the UK, but especially on the eastern side; I do not keep on with such warnings if they are not real, and as such, the sensible ones listen and heed the warning. Sadly many do not, but little by little, such events come to pass. The wettest part of the UK – the NW – United Utilities – have had had emergency water abstraction licences in force since August to take water from where-ever they can find it.

It may have gone un-noticed too – during the Brexit furore – or ‘a good day to release bad news’ - take your choice – but Yorkshire water now have an extensive explanation for their reasons to apply for emergency water abstraction licences to take water from where-ever they can find it – they too are now acutely short of water.

So the writing is now on the wall writ loud and clear, water our most precious commodity is now in short supply, therefore whilst, once again, I may be out on a limb with a prediction of an exceptionally dry winter, I think the methodology here will prove to be 100% correct, and, as such UK plc is in for some water problems well into the spring. I am aware that parts of Wales and the SW have full reservoirs, but a short sighted historical perspective has failed to evolve a situation to move water from such areas with water to those that have no water; therefore I fully expect the next area to be applying for such emergency licences will be East Anglia and the then the SE. Maybe, just maybe, some note of such warnings should be considered in future. Nature provides the answer – always – once you can master or understand what messages nature sends then maybe the dependence upon computer models will die.

Which now brings me to another looming problem for the winter, the observant will have noticed that there is no mention of snow anywhere on the winter website entries – forget the soothsayers and the 4 months winter bitter cold and snow, trust the methodology here – this is tried tested proven and works. February will be a period of sustained high pressure giving cold frosty nights and dry sunny days, albeit cold, but a high pressure zone will dominate, and as such, no wind will blow, no wind turbines will activate, no electricity will be produced, the possibility of a shortage of electric power is therefore a real one. To make the shortfall the King Coal power station may have to be used – or we have to import even more expensive power from Europe, whatever, it will be for sure an expensive winter for many. So much for progress!

Power again. Fracking continues to cause problems in such areas where it is being assessed. However, there are some quite large areas of the UK that have natural heat/power sources embedded in the infra-structure; I speak here of geo-thermal heating, many of oblivious to it, do not know it exists, yet large parts of Italy rely on such power. In simple terms, where there is granite foundations there is also radon gas. This gas is natural and can and is harvested, utilised as a power as an heat or cooling source, from deep underground and returned to the ground in a circular operation; providing heat and power that does not rely upon wind, is constant and has infinite reserves. So why does the UK not utilise it? Type geothermal heating into a search engine and see what I am talking about. There is a pilot drilling in Cornwall at the moment too, it is not a fairy story, it is a clean, renewable, not an eyesore, and dependable power source.

Several email requests recently asking if the website predictions are free. Yes it is an open source website for all to delve into, the one request is that should you (including national newspapers in particular) use data from the website – which is all subject to copyright too – then please quote the source, it is free after all; recently several national newspapers have taken items from the website and published them – as journalists' own work; sadly however a little knowledge is a dangerous thing especially when quoted out of context.

If you do not know, then ask that way you learn, and do not give incorrect information, I always reply to e-mail requests.

Requests for talks; I am quite willing to give talks to any audience the fee is £50 plus travelling, but there is a limit of mileage limit of 130 miles – the simple reason being that I travel back home after each talk. Each talk can be tailored to each audience. However, recently, mainly for economic reasons talks have been cancelled at the last moment or fees have been un-necessarily delayed. An agreement is an agreement and it is hoped that such agreements can be honoured by all sides.

So some different subjects this month to activate the brain cells, the spring prediction will appear in February. In the meantime, thank you for your interest and participation.

Keep warm and healthy.

JANUARY 2019

NEW MOON 6th @ 0128hrs = Frosty
1st QUARTER MOON = 14th @ 0645hrs = Stormy
FULL MOON 21st @ 0516hrs = Rain - Supermoon
LAST QUARTER MOON 27th @ 2110hrs = Snow (if cold enough otherwise rain)

DoP = 25th St Paul.

HIGHEST SPRING TIDES 21st to 25th.

Apogee 9th @ 0429 hrs. Perigee 21st @ 1958hrs

Partial Solar Eclipse 6th @ 0141hrs
Total Lunar Eclipse 21st @ 0512hrs visible in UK

A combination of the Full moon, a perigee, highest spring tides and a total Lunar eclipse on the 21st, could, for tidal and coastal regions be a time of concern for some.

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

BUCHAN NOTES: NONE.

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| 1st | Calends | If Janiver Calends be summerly gay, wintery weather will continue to the Calends of May. |
| 3rd | | It will be the same weather for 9 weeks as it is the ninth day after Christmas. |
| 5th | | Twelfth night. |
| 6th | Epiphany | The days are lengthened a cocks stride.
Plough Monday |
| 8th | | Weather before noon foretells June, weather after noon that of May. |
| 9th | | Weather before noon foretells August, weather after noon that of July.
Apogee @0429hrs |
| 10th | | Weather before noon foretells October, weather after noon that of September. |
| 11th | | Weather before noon foretells that of December, weather afternoon that of November. |

- 12th If the sun shines today it foretells much wind.
- 13th St Hilary Foretells 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 this day there will be a blessing on the year.
- 17th St Sulphicius Frost augers well for the spring.
- 19th - 31st See rhyme below.
- 21st Perigee @ 1958hrs Super Full Moon & Lunar eclipse for UK
- 22nd St Vincent If the sky is clear, more water than wine will crown the year. If the sun shines today (it foreshadows much wind), prosperous weather all year.
- 25th Burns Night A stormy period at times.
- 25th St Paul aka as St Annanias. It is said to predict the weather for the whole year ahead (it is good for 6 months - but tails off after that – Ed)
 DAY OF PREDICTION. Also known as Egyptian Day. Burns Night.
 Arguably the most important day of the year.
- 31st Hazel Tree in flower

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

BUCHAN NOTES: NONE.

Tree of the month is the Birch up to the 16th, 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 later 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.

Tree of the month is Birch up-to 15th. Thereafter the Rowan.

MONTHLY AVERAGES FOR EDENBRIDGE (USING 1981-2010 FIGURES)

Mean Max: 7.8C Mean Min: 1.C Mean Avg: 4.4C
Rainfall: 83.6mm Sunshine: 69.3hrs (day = 2.23hrs)

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

The following figures are for the average temperature at 12 noon and again at 4pm, taken at the beginning and again at the end of the month.

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

DATE	Chandler & Gregory Barry & Perry	Brooks	Lamb	Buchan	Met Office	Season
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January 01	31st Dec - 6th = First winter minimum cold period	25th Dec - 1st Jan				20/11 -19/1 early winter	
January 02							
January 03							
January 04							
January 05		5th - 17th Stormy	5th - 11th Storminess of early January		5th - 17th stormy period		
January 06							
January 07							
January 08		peak day					
January 09							
January 10							
January 11							
January 12							
January 13							
January 14							
January 15							
January 16							
January 17							
January 18	20th - 23rd Generally dry & sunny in central and southern England	18th - 24th anti-cyclonic	20th - 23rd Anti-cyclone period South & East England		18th - 24th quiet period	20/11 -19/1 early winter	
January 19		peak day					20/1 - 29/3 late winter
January 20			peak day				
January 21							
January 22							
January 23							
January 24		24th - 1st Feb Stormy					
January 25					25th - 31st stormy period		
January 26							
January 27			24th - 3rd Feb Renewed storminess of early January				
January 28			Gales + rain or Snow				
January 29							
January 30						20/1 - 29/3 late winter	
January 31		peak day					

