

11th November 2025: St Martin's Day Update

Where the wind blows on this date sets the tone for the months ahead. Today, however, there are gales out at sea all around the UK. As such, it is standard practise to sit back for 48 hours and reassess the situation once everything has settled down.

Today, Dave and I have studied the incoming wind changes due, and from Friday onwards the winds settle into an easterly direction, followed by consistent north-easterly winds for the east of the UK, and north-westerlies for the west.

This NW wind has a really bad reputation as a “killer wind” – for both man and beast – and our forefathers recorded such rare events carefully.

Kent in 1341AD had 9 months of frost; the extreme cold that froze the Thames and several other rivers in the 1730's had a common source: the NW wind. Those who remember the winter of 1947 in the UK can also testify to the cold – that too began with a NW wind.

This wind therefore carries a reputation of being wet at first, then, as winter progresses, turning very cold – bitterly cold. There are numerous references to the dangers of this wind, which can also bring deep cold.

The real problem, however, comes when these opposing winds meet, bringing enormous amounts of snow for all – a true battleground set up.

So today's update confirms our winter forecast remains unchanged: A cold, long, hard winter. Once again, the 1200-year-old sayings have proved 100% accurate.

Dave now has a sad personal announcement to make, which can be read on the following page, or viewed on You Tube.

Best wishes,

Lesley & Dave

THE BEST LAID PLANS SOMETIMES GO TITS UP!

Good day everyone, to the excellent ever-increasing readership, the curious, the interested, things today have not gone as planned. Today, St Martin's Day, a vital wind day, where the wind blows today there it stays until well into April. It was Lesley's and my intention to do a walk here in Dorset and highlight the signs of the coming winter. Alas, fate struck a deadly blow in the form of an unexpected untreatable health bug some six weeks ago, to me, that has generated a major sequence of events, making any thoughts, let alone actual walking, completely out of the question.

As many of you know, or have experienced, to me a six-mile ramble across Kent and here in Dorset, climbing gates etc is a normal event, and has been a regular event for as long as I can remember and sickness to me is unknown. So, what started as a weakened body, then a massive loss of weight and frailty, rendering any activity beyond 500 metres, exhausting, painful, and finally out of the question, and to me completely debilitating, a truly crushing blow.

I am under the superb care of the world-renowned surgical team at Maidstone hospital, and in due course, with good fortune, care and recuperation, can resume some sort of truncated activity; any activity is better than the alternatives. As a result, at least for a while, no more walks with Lesley, or anyone else either

So, a very sad day for me, it is only very fitting, but correct, that I do this here with Lesley and her husband Rob, here in Dorset. For the foreseeable future I must step back from the website, sometimes discretion is the better part of stupidity.

Thank you, each and every one of you, for the support, encouragement and backing that started many years ago with a fledgling website, that is now the acknowledged leader in the weather methodology. I leave you all firstly, with a legacy of two unique books, often copied, but never beaten. A website with methodology that is for the greater part reliable and accurate and an ever-expanding readership that appreciates how brilliant nature and its kingdom is. The original aims to entertain, educate, enlighten, and inform, of the website has been achieved. It is all out there, free, just there for you all to discover. Job done then.

The second, the real true jewel in the crown, is that Lesley has grown into her own website like a duck to water, she learns all the time, and it is my greatest regret that I must, at least temporarily to curtail my activities.

So, dear friends, I ask please, as you gave me encouragement, succour and encouragement many years ago, now to offer the same support to Lesley and Rob her husband. We (collectively) have a unique website that grows all the time. Please give your support to Lesley and grow this wonderful project.

Thank you all for your support to me in the past, now transfer that same vigour and enthusiasm to Lesley.

Time for me, maybe tearfully, to leave this honoured stage and pass the baton to Lesley.

Goodbye everyone, good luck and thank you all. It has been a truly wonderful journey.

David

11th November 2025.

As the festive season approaches, I join Lesley and Rob in sending you all my sincere and heartfelt wishes for a Merry Christmas, and for the coming year, a healthy, Happy year with all you aspire to get 2026.