

A detailed botanical illustration of yellow flowers, possibly Primula, with green leaves and stems, arranged in a circular pattern around the central text. The flowers are in various stages of bloom, with some showing distinct petals and centers. The background is a light, textured cream color.

JANUARY 2026

Indigenous UK Weather

JANUARY 2026

PREAMBLE

(Wind Direction on December 21st: E/ NE)



Wildflower of the Month – Common Gorse

Flower of The Month: Carnation

Tree of The Month: Silver Birch

Full Moon this Month: Wolf Moon

*"What we have once enjoyed we can never lose; all that we
love deeply becomes a part of us."*

Helen Keller

A New Year

Firstly, a very Happy New Year to one and all. I hope that 2026 brings you peace, purpose, and joy. Thank you, as always, for your continued support and readership. Your emails, kindness, and shared memories over the past month have carried me more than you could possibly know.

It feels surreal to write that this marks the beginning of my third year as Dave's editor — and the first without him. I will be forever humbled and grateful that Dave trusted me with his methodology, his work, and ultimately, his legacy. The two-and-a-bit years I spent under his mentorship were extraordinary. Everything he taught me, and every magical memory we made along the way, will stay with me always.

Of course, the website will gradually need to reflect that Dave is no longer with us. But as it has only been a matter of weeks, this new reality is still very raw. I see little value in rushing these changes. They will come, gently and thoughtfully, when I feel ready to face this new dawn. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

What I can say with certainty is this: Dave will never be erased from this website. Quite the opposite. He will always be its heart and soul. My hope is that his presence will be felt, unmistakably stitched into the fabric of everything I produce here.

I am very aware that I am not Dave and never will be. To continue this project honestly, I need to do so in a way that is true to who I am, while honouring everything Dave left behind. Please be reassured: the methodology will not change. Dave created something truly special, and I will continue to work exactly as he taught me.

What may take time is finding my own rhythm within it. I cannot claim to be 90% accurate with forecasting, as Dave so often was. I hope, in time, to reach around 80% — but only time will tell. Please bear with me as I learn, refine, and grow.

At heart, I am simply a woman, with a family, my dog, and a deep love of walking in nature. If my observations resonate with you, I would love you to stay. But this will never be about Met Office-style forecasts. Indigenous UK Weather has always been about weatherlore, nature, and noticing the world around us — slowly and quietly, and that spirit will remain.

While Dave's remarkable ability to forecast up to 180 days ahead understandably drew a large following, I don't think he ever fully realised just how many people came here simply to learn about, reconnect with, and enjoy nature itself. That side of the work will become increasingly present in my monthly entries, as it feels both natural and necessary to me.

Honouring Dave in 2026 and Beyond

Over recent weeks I've spent a great deal of time reflecting and speaking with Dave's closest friends and long-standing readers. Together, we've come up with a few ways we'd love to honour him throughout the year ahead.

1. 365 Days of Dave

Beginning on 1st January 2026, I'll be sharing, every single day, something Dave would have been observing or noting on that date. We'd love for you to join in by sharing your own photos, thoughts, and interpretations using the hashtag #365daysofdave.

You can follow along on Instagram here: @indigenousukweather

My heartfelt thanks go to Sarah and Stu, two of Dave's closest friends, for helping shape this idea.

2. A Toast to Dave

On 31st January at 7:00pm, we'll be hosting a Zoom call in Dave's honour — a chance to raise a glass, share memories, and come together as a community.

If you'd like to join us, please email indigenousukweather@outlook.com, and I'll send you the joining details. We would love to see you there.

3. Country Signs Continues

As they say, the show must go on. Filming of Country Signs will continue. Some of you may have noticed my uncanny ability to avoid 99% of camera time over the past two years! I've always been deeply camera-shy, and "being on TV" will never come naturally to me, but I recognise this is part of the role now, and I'll do my best.

I'd also like to extend a huge thank you to David Andrews, whom I met on my final walk with Dave. David has very kindly agreed to help with filming, so I really do have no excuse now.

Looking Ahead to 2026

My plans for the year ahead are simple at heart: to do work that Dave would be proud of.

- Website updates will appear in due course, reflecting the new situation
- Daily Instagram content as part of 365 Days of Dave
- Continued filming of Country Signs
- The Annual Talk — postponed from November 2025 due to Dave's ill health, but very much happening in 2026
- The 2026 Photographer of the Year competition
- Continued celebration of the community that makes this space what it is

Dave also left me something incredibly precious: his books. Alongside his weather station and vast archive of notes, he left his books to me too, including all royalties. I was deeply moved by this gesture. His books are now available via my shop page.

Please do not order from Weather Without Technology, as David is no longer there to fulfil orders, and the site cannot currently be updated. Any orders placed there will not be

received.

January Highlights

As long-standing readers will know, I've never felt January is the true beginning of the year. To me, the old April New Year makes far more sense. January is for gentleness, for reconnecting with nature, slowing down, and allowing ourselves a quieter pace.

A few January suggestions:

- BBC Winterwatch — broadcasting from Mount Stewart, County Down (dates TBC but usually the end of January).
- The Big Garden Birdwatch — 23rd–25th January
- Feed the birds.
- Order seeds for the months ahead.
- Make friends with your robins — with patience, they may just eat from your hand. Dave always managed it.

January's Spotlight

This January, I'm delighted to shine the spotlight on my wonderfully talented sister-in-law, Katie Bradbury. Katie has an incredible gift for all things feng shui, and her insights are both practical and deeply intuitive.

After Dave passed away, I asked Katie for her help in gently bringing fresh energy into our home – and I cannot recommend her highly enough. Her work is thoughtful, grounding, and quietly transformative.

You can follow her beautifully insightful Instagram account here: [@fengshuiwithkatie](#)

If there is anyone you know doing fabulous work within the community then reach out – we love shining a spotlight on all our talented members. 🌟

Thank you

It would be impossible to thank everyone for their love and support over the past month. You have all been so generous with your kindness during this difficult time, and your e-mails have brought me such comfort. There are some people I need to thank specifically. Firstly, thank you to Trevor, David's son, for working his absolute socks off organising his dad's archives. He also helped Rob and me dismantle and reset David's amazing weather station. It has been so lovely getting to know you over the last few weeks. Thank you so much. Thank you to Sarah Brown, one of Dave's closest friends, who has helped me so much with ideas on how to honour Dave, and just generally listening to me be sad when I needed someone to listen. And to David Andrews who has regularly checked in to see how I am

holding up. Funny to think I would never have known any of you if it wasn't for Dave – you are all amazing and it has been a pleasure to get to know you.

Last but not least, a huge thank you to David Blackmore from ITV, for organising a beautiful tribute to Dave on ITV's This Morning. I know Dave would have loved it.

Finally

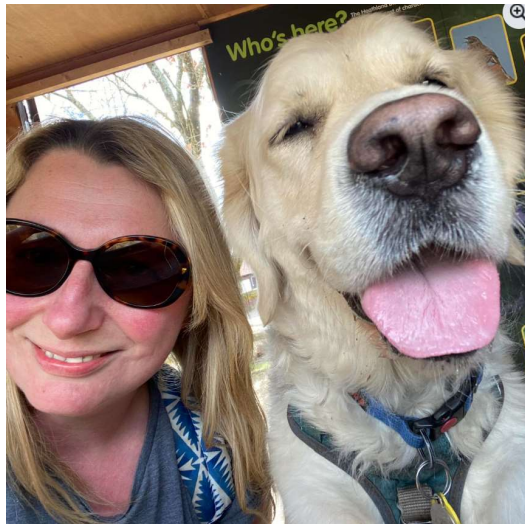
January can feel bleak at the best of times — and this year more than most. Between the loss of our dear friend Dave and the wider state of the world and this woefully inadequate government, it's easy to feel heavy. But it matters how we step forward. Stay connected. Stay warm. Stay curious. And above all, find moments of joy where you can.

If Dave taught me anything, it is “life is what you make it.” It can be hard to switch off grief, impossible really. But it's not enough to survive – we must live! So, let's go into the New Year with excitement, enthusiasm, and gratitude – for Dave, a shining example of a life well lived.

Whatever your plans are for the holidays, enjoy! In the spirit of living life to the full, I am off to the Cairngorms for the holidays. It felt like the perfect time to throw myself into a new adventure.

With very best wishes,

Lesley & Bailey 🐾🐾



Photographer of the Year 2025 – Trevor Eldridge

“Whooo’s Watching Who?”

March 2025.



Indigenous UK Weather is not the BBC and will never operate as such. Therefore, full transparency – Trevor Eldridge is my dad, but won the vote fair and square with an amazing 197 votes.

Congratulation Dad 😊 I am so excited to give you your trophy and RSPB voucher!

Who will the 2026 Photographer of the Year be?

Judy Woodward Presents:

Photo of the Month: Who Goes There?



This image captures one of those magical moments where nature feels alive and quietly aware, rewarding those who take the time to really look.

Thank you so much for sending in this amazing shot Judy. Sharing moments like this is especially important for members of our community who aren't always able to get out and experience nature first hand – something Dave truly appreciated and spoke of often in his final weeks.

Water Woes: Sewage, Forever Chemicals, and a System That Keeps Failing Us

Another month, another grim reminder that England's water system is failing both people and the environment — not by accident, but through years of neglect, weak regulation, and a culture of damage control rather than prevention.

Wessex Water: Fined for Failing — Again

In November, regulator Ofwat proposed an £11 million enforcement package against Wessex Water after finding that the company failed to properly operate, maintain, and upgrade its wastewater network.

The result? Sewage spills from storm overflows when they should not have been happening at all.

Ofwat's investigation concluded that Wessex Water's systems could not cope with wastewater flows — a basic requirement of any functioning sewerage network. While the company has been described as “proactive” after the fact, this enforcement action exists precisely because the failures were serious, prolonged, and avoidable.

The £11m package is intended to:

- Reduce sewage spills that should never have occurred
- Improve monitoring of storm overflows and treatment works
- Address groundwater infiltration into broken sewer pipes
- Push forward work that otherwise wouldn't have happened until after 2030

This case is not an outlier. It is the sixth enforcement action in Ofwat's largest-ever wastewater investigation, following cases against Thames Water, Yorkshire Water, Northumbrian Water, Anglian Water, and South West Water — with total enforcement now exceeding £240 million.

And yet, sewage continues to pour into rivers, streams, and coastal waters.

Drinking Water Contamination: The Hidden Crisis

While sewage dominates headlines, a quieter, and arguably more disturbing problem is unfolding in our drinking water.

A BBC investigation has revealed that water companies have been issued 23 enforcement notices over elevated levels of PFAS, commonly known as “forever chemicals”, in drinking water sources serving at least six million people.

PFAS are persistent pollutants used since the 1940s in products ranging from frying pans and food packaging to firefighting foam and medical equipment. They do not break down easily. Once in the environment, they stay there — accumulating in water, soil, wildlife, and human bodies.

Since 2021, water companies have been required to test for 47 of the most concerning PFAS compounds. In the last four years:

- 1.7 million individual PFAS tests have been carried out
- 9,432 tests exceeded the Drinking Water Inspectorate’s health-based guidance level
- Two of the most dangerous compounds, PFOA and PFOS appeared in more than 350 drinking water tests in 2024 alone

Earlier this year, the World Health Organization classified PFOA as carcinogenic and PFOS as possibly carcinogenic, linking them to increased risks of kidney, testicular, and thyroid cancers. Both are now banned but banning them does not remove them from water already contaminated.

As one environmental chemist put it: removing PFAS from water is like trying to get milk out of coffee once it’s been poured in.

Regulation That Lags Behind Reality

The Drinking Water Inspectorate insists that drinking water remains safe because sanctions trigger increased testing, treatment changes, or removal of contaminated water sources. But this process can take years, during which affected supplies remain under “monitoring”.

Environmental groups and the Royal Society of Chemistry have raised serious concerns that:

- UK PFAS limits are not legally binding
- They are 2.5 times weaker than those in the United States
- Water companies are not being held to account quickly or firmly enough

An independent government-commissioned review has already concluded that stricter treatment requirements are needed to protect public health and the environment. A government white paper is reportedly in preparation — but for now, contamination continues while responsibility is passed around.

The Bigger Picture

What links sewage spills and forever chemicals is not bad luck or unexpected challenges, it is systemic failure.

Water companies tell us they are investing. Regulators tell us they are enforcing. Industry bodies tell us we have “the best drinking water in the world”.

Meanwhile:

- Rivers are biologically collapsing
- Coastal waters are repeatedly polluted
- Drinking water sources are contaminated with chemicals that persist for generations

As Dave understood, water is not an abstract issue. It is everything. It is health, dignity, nature, and trust. And right now, that trust is being repeatedly broken.

This spotlight will stay firmly on them.

Because it has to.

Sources:

[Ofwat confirms £11 million enforcement package for Wessex Water - Ofwat](#)

[Firms ordered to reduce forever chemicals in drinking water for 6m people - BBC News](#)

January's Spotlight: Katie Bradbury

A Woman Who Lives — and Teaches — with Intention

There are some people who don't just talk about living well — they embody it. They move through the world with a quiet confidence, guided by purpose, intuition, and a deep respect for energy and natural rhythms.

This month, it is with immense pride and genuine admiration that I shine the Spotlight on Katie Bradbury, my beautiful sister-in-law, and a true rockstar in the world of Feng Shui.

Katie's work is transforming the way people experience their homes and their lives. One thoughtful adjustment at a time, she helps bring in clarity, calm, abundance, and flow, while gently clearing what no longer serves. Her approach is grounded, practical, and deeply human. And from personal experience, I can say without hesitation: it works.

From Corporate Burnout to Meaningful Work

Before Feng Shui, Katie spent years in the corporate tech world — long hours, relentless pace, and work increasingly disconnected from the rhythms of real life. Like many of us, she followed the path she was “supposed” to take.

But a pivotal moment changed everything.

After the sudden loss of a colleague and friend, and witnessing how quickly the business world moved on, Katie had a stark realisation: the industry didn't truly care for its people. That moment cracked something open. It sparked a deep questioning — and ultimately, a brave decision to step away and find work that lit her up.

Rather than staying within the confines of corporate life, Katie chose to rewrite the rules. She followed curiosity. She studied energy. She listened to intuition. And what emerged was work that is now genuinely changing lives.

Why Her Work Matters (And Why I'm So Grateful)

Katie is so much more than a Feng Shui consultant. She is a mentor, a nurturer, a guide, and an inspiration. Her ability to see potential, in spaces and in people, is extraordinary.

On a personal level, her work has helped me beyond measure. Our whole family feels the shift. Our home feels calmer, lighter, more aligned. She helped us create the energy we truly needed to thrive — and for that, I will always be grateful.

Life has a way of bringing the right people together, and I will forever be thankful that my little brother brought Katie into our lives. She is not just family, she is someone who inspires me daily with her wisdom, kindness, and unwavering passion.

From that place, Feng Shui with Katie was born.

Making Feng Shui Simple, Modern, and Powerful

Katie recognised that traditional Feng Shui teachings often feel overly complex and inaccessible. She made it her mission to demystify the practice — stripping away confusion, explaining it clearly, and showing just how simple meaningful change can be.

The results speak for themselves — and they are profound.

Katie is quietly revolutionising Feng Shui by making it practical, relatable, and achievable for modern life.

A Note from Katie (in her own words)

I'm a Feng Shui Consultant based in Berkshire and founded Feng Shui with Katie at the beginning of 2025. Before that, I spent almost a decade working in corporate tech — long hours, American companies, late evenings, and completely out of sync with natural rhythms.

When we moved into our home in Warfield, I noticed an immediate change in our cocker spaniel, Indie. She went from hyperactive and chaotic to calm and content almost overnight. Knowing how sensitive animals are to energy, it sparked my curiosity.

I began exploring the energy of our home — and once I applied just a few simple Feng Shui principles, the shifts were incredible. I received an unexpected pay rise, James' career took off, and we both had more energy, slept better, and felt healthier.

That was the moment I knew I had to share this ancient practice — one used for thousands of years, and still embraced by some of the most successful people today — but in a way that feels accessible, practical, and realistic for everyday life.

What Is Feng Shui?

Feng Shui is an ancient Chinese practice over 4,000 years old that studies how energy — known as Qi — flows through our environments.

In China, it's as common to have a Feng Shui assessment for a new home as it is for us in the UK to have an environmental survey.

The aim is to create harmony by clearing energy blocks that may affect our health, relationships, finances, and overall wellbeing.

Katie practices Flying Stars Feng Shui, one of the most advanced forms of the discipline. It blends traditional principles with astrology and takes into account how energy shifts not only year-to-year, but across 20-year cycles — offering a deeply nuanced understanding of space and timing.

Feng Shui for January: Gentle Preparation, Not Pressure

If January feels like the wrong time for big new beginnings, you're not imagining it. In Feng Shui, the New Year doesn't begin until 4th February, following the solar calendar — the midpoint between the Winter Solstice and the Spring Equinox.

January, instead, is about preparation. Here are a few simple, seasonally aligned tips from Katie:

- Let fresh air in
Open your front door for a few minutes each day to invite new energy and opportunities.
- Bring nature indoors
Fresh flowers or healthy houseplants revive stagnant energy and uplift a space.
- Declutter gently
Clutter blocks energy flow and can leave us feeling heavy or unmotivated. Creating space allows new energy to enter.
- Fix leaks
In Feng Shui, water represents wealth. A dripping tap symbolises money leaking away.
- Close bathroom doors and toilet lids
Bathrooms are considered energy “drains” — keeping them closed helps retain good energy.
- Clean the windows
Windows are the eyes of your home. Clean glass allows light and fresh energy to flow freely.

Even small changes can have a powerful impact.

How to Find Katie

Katie works with clients all over the world, offering remote consultations using floor plans, photos, and a home's energetic blueprint.

-  Website: fengshuiwithkatie.com

- 📷 Instagram: @fengshuiwithkatie
- 📞 Free consultation calls available for anyone curious about where to start

A Final Word

Here's to you, Katie.

Your work is meaningful. Your energy is powerful. And the way you help people reconnect with their homes, and themselves, is truly special.

You are, quite simply, amazing.

Wildly Unexpected: Whacky Sightings from the Natural World

Because nature's weird side deserves the spotlight.

Welcome to Wildly Unexpected – a monthly feature celebrating those wonderfully odd, easily missed, or downright head scratching moments you stumble across when you slow down and really look at the world around you. Every month, you send in the most incredible photos from your walks. This feature gives us the perfect excuse to share a few more of them.

Please note the photo in the top left-hand corner is not my own. It was shared by Devon Wildlife Trust, but I thought it was incredible and wanted to highlight this strange phenomenon called “hair ice”, which they found at Dusford Reserve. This delicate candy floss like ice forms under extremely specific conditions: moist, rotting wood from a broadleaf tree, temperatures just below 0c, and the presence of a special fungi (*Exidiopsis effusa*). Hair ice is a rare, beautiful natural formation, and one I’ve never seen in person – so I had to share it with you!

The other things that have caught my eye this month, are the enormous number of seeds left hanging on the bare trees. It is quite a sight. Another huge year for mistletoe too. Bottom middle you will see a plant called Old Man’s Beard or Travellers Joy, which is everywhere this year. All that white fluff exists specifically to help with seed dispersal. It increases the dispersal area – a natural parachute system - and really does look like tangled white hair or beards hanging in the hedges. In folklore, old man’s beard is often linked to ancestral presence in winter hedges – old age, wisdom and time. “Traveller’s Joy” suggests companionship on journeys and was seen as a marker of thresholds and edges – roadsides, boundaries and transitions. Bottom right we have snowdrops, which are blooming suspiciously early, all too, traditionally signs of a severe winter to come.



Wildly Unexpected reminds us that nature is always doing strange, quiet, wonderful things – especially when we slow down enough to notice. Got whacky sightings? The weirder the better, send them in.

Little Boots' Big Adventures: January

Hello, bird brains!

January arrives quietly, the trees stand bare, the ground crunches underfoot, and the world feels hushed. Look a little closer, and you'll discover that January is one of the best months of all for noticing nature... especially the birds.

With leaves gone and hedgerows stripped back, nothing has anywhere to hide. This is the month when the small things suddenly become easy to see if you take the time to look.

Feathered Friends Festival (All Month Long)

January is prime time for birdwatching. With fewer leaves on the trees and birds hungry after winter nights, gardens, parks, and woodlands become busy meeting places.

You might spot:

- Robins defending their winter patches
- Blue tits and great tits visiting feeders
- Blackbirds searching for berries
- Dunnocks quietly hopping in hedges

Little Boots Challenge:

Keep a January bird list. How many different birds can you spot this month? Can you notice which ones visit every day and which only appear occasionally?

Bonus points if you learn one bird call by ear!

Wolf Moon Wonder

January's full moon is known as the Wolf Moon, named for the long winter nights when wolves were once heard howling at the edge of villages. On a clear night, step outside and look up. Winter moons often shine brighter and sharper in the cold air.

Try this:

Listen. What sounds travel further in the cold? Can you hear owls, foxes, or distant birds calling?

Bare Branch Detectives

With trees stripped of leaves, January is the best time to study their shapes.

Look for:

- Old nests revealed in bare branches
- Places birds might choose to nest again
- Bonus points for mistletoe sightings!

Little Boots Tip:

If you spot an old nest, keep an eye on that tree in spring, birds often return to familiar places.

Winter Kindness Corner

January is a tough month for wildlife.

You can help by:

- Putting out bird food regularly
- Leaving apples or berries for blackbirds and thrushes
- Keeping fresh water available when ponds freeze

Remember:

Helping birds through winter means more birdsongs come spring.

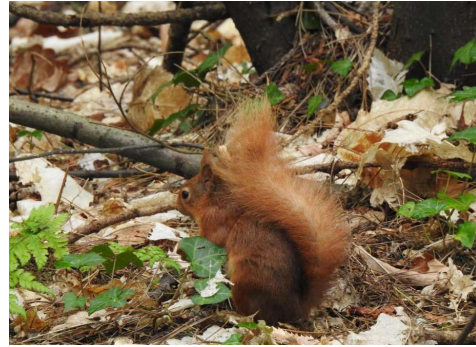
So, little explorers... January may feel quiet, but it's full of life if you slow down enough to notice it. Wrap up warm, pop out some bird food, and let the birds be your guides this month. You might be surprised just how much there is to see when the world takes off its leaves.

Lace up your boots, zip up your coat, and keep looking.

Over and Out!  ❄️

Magic Sightings waiting to happen in January are:

- Curlew
- Fallow deer
- Fieldfare
 - Fox
- Frosted Spiderwebs
- Golden Plovers
- Hoar Frost
- Kingfisher
- Lapwing
- Mistletoe
- Mountain Hare
 - Otters
- Pink Footed Geese
 - Red Deer
 - Red Squirrels
 - Redwing
 - Robins
- Starling Murmurations
 - Stoats
- Tawny Owls/ Short Eared Owls
 - Teal
- Waxwings (some years)



Red Squirrel

January is a great time of year to plant garlic because it needs cold to thrive. The chill triggers proper bulb formation, while slow winter root growth gives the plant a head start before spring.

Planted now, garlic settles quietly underground, shrugs off frost, and emerges strong and early – making it one of the most reliable, low-effort crops you can put into the ground at the very heart of winter.

- Black Mustard.

January isn't the best time for foraging. There are still a couple of great opportunities for foraging mushrooms/ fungi at this time of year, however I do not and will not advise people to go foraging for these items.

You really need to know what you are doing. Please do not forage mushrooms/ fungi unless you are with a qualified professional.

IF YOU ARE
UNSURE OF
IDENTITY DO NOT
EAT. WE HAVE A
SURPRISING
NUMBER OF
POISONOUS
SPECIES IN UK.

THE SKIES: JANUARY 2026

THE SKIES

- 3rd: Full Super Moon
- 3rd & 4th: Quadrantids Meteor Shower
- 10th: You may be able to see Jupiter



Full Moon:
3rd January @ 10:02
Cold & High Winds



3Q Moon:
10th January @ 15:48
Fair & Mild



New Moon:
18th January @ 19:52
Fair & Frosty if winds N or NE



1Q Moon:
26th January @ 04:47
Rain



PERIGEE @ 21:44 ON 1st JANUARY &
29th JANUARY @ 21:45

APOGEE @ 20:47 ON 13th JANUARY

Now the collated expert notes on January:

JANUARY – is on average the coldest month of the year in Britain. The coldest day is traditionally associated with 13th January – St Hilary, and in fact the three days 12-14th January do tend to bring cold temperatures to London, the Home Counties and SE England. Early January is a continuation of the December stormy weather after a break of a few days after the New Year, from 5-17th, in some years taking all this period. A cold spell often develops in mid-January, with a rapid decrease in storms. This is associated with a considerable rise in barometric pressure over central Europe, and, to a lesser extent over northern Europe. It is quite common over much of Britain and results in remarkable frost during some seasons. Towards the end of January barometric pressure generally begins to fall again, normally quite considerably too over most of Europe, leading in many years to quite stormy periods. On the average such times last about nine days from 24th January to the 1st February – even if there are one or two fine days in the middle. Typical weather is dull, mild, and wet, but not particularly cold. Many will recall the North Sea floods of 1953 that brought flooding, deaths, and destruction to much of the North Sea coastline, including the east of England, during this late January period. Fortunately, there is no evidence of such an occurrence for this year.

Notes from Nature:

The wind on December 21st (St Thomas's Day) was easterly, later swinging north-easterly. Winter so far has been wet and mild. That will now change. Winter has officially arrived – and the cold looks set to last well into April

Despite the bare trees and hedges, there remains an abundance of food: Snowberries, berberis, cotoneaster, pyracantha still heavy with fruit.

With the leaves gone, the sheer number of seeds visible is striking. Nature has stocked up – and it rarely does so without reason.

Lichen is also thriving, spreading everywhere you look.

Tree buds are developing too well for comfort, and this may well spell trouble for next year's fruit crop. I'll have more to say on this after assessing the crucial Christmas Day and New Year's Day lore, which I'll share with you mid-January.

Many of you also will have noticed the abundance of wildflowers already blooming. This is not a good sign.

As always, my dear friend David was right. The signs are clear: this winter will be hard — cold, long, and menacing. The peak likely occurring in February 2026. Be prepared.

January Forecast:

January looks set to start off on a cold and windy note. The Highlands may experience blizzard conditions during the first ten days of the month.

By around January 10th, we are likely to see a brief return to a milder pattern, drier and sunnier, before conditions turn colder and frostier again around 18th.

There is just an outside chance of snow around January 26th if temperatures are cold enough, otherwise, precipitation is more likely to fall as cold rain.

Overall, January looks set to be a cold month, with plenty of frosty and foggy mornings. It will likely be much drier than average.

Lunar phases and folklore remain important tools in indigenous weather forecasting – here's how they align this January:



DoP = 25th St Paul

HIGHEST SPRING TIDES: 4th – 7th & 21st – 24th

Perigee 21st @ 04:54 AND 29th @ 21:45
Apogee 13th @ 20:47

Quadrantids Meteor Shower 3rd & 4th

Full Super Moon on 3rd is known as WOLF or OLDMOON/ MOON AFTER YULE

MET OFFICE NOTES: 5th – 17th Stormy; 18th – 24th Quiet; 25th – 31st Stormy

BUCHAN NOTES = NONE

Monthly Notes & Comments

1 st	Calends	If Janiver Calends be summerly gay, wintery weather will continue to the calends of May.
3 rd		It will be the same weather for nine weeks as it is the ninth day after Christmas. 3 rd & 4 th : Quadrantids Meteor Shower.
5 th		Twelfth night.
6 th	Epiphany	The days are lengthened a cocks stride.
8 th		Weather before noon foretells June, weather after noon that of May. Plough Monday. Perigee @ 00:01
9 th		Weather before noon foretells August, weather after noon that of July.
10 th		Weather before noon foretells October, weather after noon that of September.
11 th		Weather before noon foretells December, weather after noon that of November.
12 th		If the sun shines today it foretells much wind.
13 th	St Hilary	Foretells the weather for the whole year. Often considered the coldest and or wettest day of the year (reliable). Homage day to the apple tree.
15 th	St Paul the Hermit	If rain or snow this year, there will be a blessing on the year.
17 th	St Sulphicius	Frost augers well for Spring.
19 th – 31 st		See rhyme below.
22 nd	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.
25 th	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). DAY OF PREDICTION. Also known as Egyptian Day. Burns Night. Arguably the most important day of the year.
31 st		Hazel tree in flower.

MET OFFICE NOTES:
5th – 17th Stormy

BUCHAN NOTES = None.

18th – 24th Quiet
25th – 31st Stormy

Wildflower of the Month – Common Gorse (flowers January – June)

Flower of The Month: Carnation

Tree of The Month: The Silver Birch

Full Moon this Month: Wolf Moon

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.

THE MOON IS KNOWN AS THE WOLF MOON OR OLD MOON OR MOON AFTER YULE.

MONTHLY AVERAGES FOR EDENBRIDGE (USING 1991-2020 FIGURES)

All the figures below have now been updated to comply with the Above 30 year period

Mean Max:	8.7C	Mean Min:	.9C	Mean Avg:	4.8C
Rainfall:	90.6mm	Sunshine:	66.2hrs	(day =	2.13hrs)

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	6.38C	6.42C
31 st	5.65C	5.3C

TOM	Moon	Weather	DoP	St/ Holy Day	Other Day	Quarter Day	Apogee/ Perigee	Met Off (stormy/ quiet)	Buchan (warm/ cold)	Super Moon	Highest Tide	Notes
1					New Years Day/ Calends		Perigee @ 21:44					
2												
3	FULL @ 10:02	Cold and high winds								SUPER MOON		Quadrantids Meteor Shower
4											High tides	Quadrantids Meteor Shower
5								Stormy Period			High tides	
6					Epiphany			Stormy Period			High tides	
7								Stormy Period			High tides	
8								Stormy Period				
9								Stormy Period				
10	3Q @ 15:48	Fair and Mild						Stormy Period				*Jupiter*
11								Stormy Period				
12								Stormy Period				
13				St Hilary			Apogee @ 20:47	Stormy Period				
14								Stormy Period				
15				St Paul				Stormy Period				
16								Stormy Period				
17				St Sulphicius				Stormy Period				
18	New @ 19:52	Fair and frosty if winds N or NE						Quiet				
19								Quiet				
20								Quiet				
21								Quiet			High Tides	
22				St Vincent				Quiet			High Tides	
23								Quiet			High Tides	
24								Quiet			High Tides	
25			DoP	St Paul				Stormy Period				
26	1Q @ 04:47	Rain						Stormy Period				
27								Stormy Period				
28								Stormy Period				
29							Perigee @ 21:45	Stormy Period				
30								Stormy Period				
31								Stormy Period				