

# Australian Government

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## Bureau of Meteorology

### July 2014

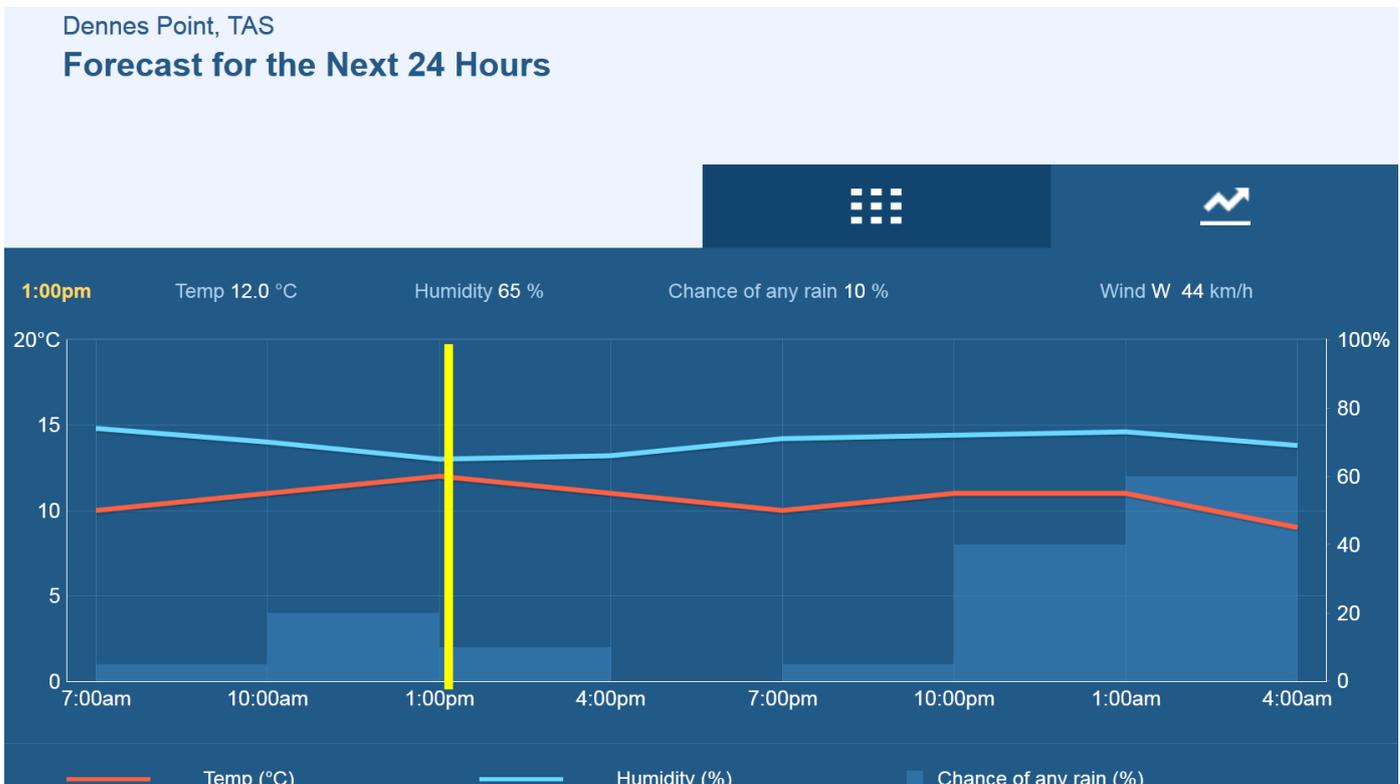
## New Bureau Mobile Website

The Bureau of Meteorology has released a mobile phone friendly web site. Whilst it does not give marine forecasts it can still be helpful for the mariner.

Mariners can access any marine warnings that are current. They can also access the radar and forecasts for coastal locations.

By going to “The Next 24 Hours” a 3 hourly table of Temperature, Humidity, Wind and Chance of Rain can be accessed. By selecting the graph tool (the wiggly arrow) the day is then displayed. By moving the yellow line data for that time (including wind) is displayed at the top of the graph.

To access the mobile website type `m.bom.gov.au` into your mobile phone internet.



# When You Hear a Marine Wind Warning

When you're out on the water, stay tuned to marine radio for the latest weather forecasts and wind warnings from the Bureau of Meteorology. When a wind warning is issued, there are six key things you need to listen out for in the forecast:

- When will the warning conditions start?
- What speed will the wind reach?
- What area is the wind warning for?
- What direction will the wind be from?
- Is any other bad weather expected?
- When will the warning conditions cease?

Assess whether you have enough time to get back to port before the wind picks up, or if you need to take precautions and seek shelter.

The Bureau's forecast may indicate if the wind speeds will be stronger offshore compared to inshore.

You can view marine wind maps on the Bureau's website, MetEye, to obtain a detailed wind forecast for the area you're planning to operate in.

If you're preparing to head out on the water this summer, check the Bureau's round-the-clock forecast service, covering all Australian coastal waters, at [www.bom.gov.au/marine](http://www.bom.gov.au/marine).

## ***Definitions of wind strength used in coastal and high seas warnings***

| Wind warning    | Wind range*      |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Strong wind     | 26 to 33 knots   |
| Gale            | 34 to 47 knots   |
| Storm force     | 48 to 63 knots   |
| Hurricane force | 64 knots or more |

\*Note: These wind speeds are 10-minute averages

## Marine Meteye

The Bureau had a display at Agfest and our staff spoke to many mariners. Many of these mariners had never heard of Meteye (the Bureau's graphical forecast display). Those that had seen it are now regular users.

If you have not tried this service go to

[www.bom.gov.au/australia/meteye/](http://www.bom.gov.au/australia/meteye/)

and see what it can offer you.

# West Takone Radar

The Bureau's radar at west Takone was opened in December 1995. It has been off the air for several weeks whilst major maintenance and a refurbishment took place.

The radar itself did not have a great deal done to it (some joints were replaced): the supporting infrastructure received most of the attention.

A new hut that contains the electronic heart of the radar was constructed. This hut has better climate controls for the electronics and communication links.

Over the years of operation lichen had built up on the dome affecting the signal. The dome that covered the dish was dismantled and taken away for cleaning.

The radar tower was cleaned and rust prevention work undertaken. A new emergency generator was installed.

These refurbishments have extended the life of this radar infrastructure by about 15 years



## Praise/Complaints/Queries

If you wish to have an explanation of any marine weather matter please email [pubmarine.tas@bom.gov.au](mailto:pubmarine.tas@bom.gov.au) or call 03 6221 2081 during normal business hours. Use the same email address and phone number if you wish to be put on the address list for this newsletter.