

Lance Pidgeon
PO box 1079 Queanbeyan N.S.W. 2620
Lancepidgeon@bigpond.com
040 794 4374

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The Hon Bob Baldwin MP.
Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for the environment.
PO Box 6022
Canberra ACT 2600

Copies to assorted climate bloggers, media and interested persons.

My thanks to you for taking on the great challenge of sorting out the jokers at the Bureau of Meteorology..
Thankyou also for getting such a great team of mathematicos to help.

It is my hope that after reading this you will pass on my thanks for the excellent comedy show to the BoM jokers. Like most Australians I enjoy good laugh and would like credit given to the BoM for the best humour in the country. Looking at the pictorial data provided by the BoM is a source of humour far better than any entertainment or propaganda provided by the ABC. The ridiculous mistakes are so easy to spot that you do not need to be a scientist so even primary school kids can have a good laugh. Fun for all the family!

Where else in the world can you find a government department so clumsy with important historical data that they pictorially present incredible self contradictory errors online. Large areas of the country with mean maximum temperatures higher than the highest maximum temperatures they present for the same period and place. This is what the BoM do here below for the Southwest corner of South Australia during November 1925.

<http://www.bom.gov.au/jsp/awap/temp/archive.jsp?colour=colour&map=maxave&year=1925&month=11&period=month&area=sa>

According to the map this area has a mean maximum between 36 and 39 Degrees C.

and

<http://www.bom.gov.au/jsp/awap/temp/archive.jsp?colour=colour&map=maxextrm%2Fhi&year=1925&month=11&period=month&area=sa>

According to this map the same area has a highest maximum of 30 to 36 degrees C.

The humour just gets keeps getting better because they also present maps with monthly anomaly figures that do not agree with the daily figures on their other maps. Looking again at the same place but this time on the South Australia 1925 November anomaly map here below, the BoM correctly shows us a big bad +6 or more degree C Hot area.

<http://www.bom.gov.au/jsp/awap/temp/archive.jsp?colour=colour&map=maxanom&year=1925&month=11&day=26&period=month&area=sa>

The point of the twisted humour is not subtle at all but the joke is that absolutely none of the individual daily anomaly maps for the same month show an anomaly above 6 degrees C in the same place. None!

<http://www.bom.gov.au/jsp/awap/temp/archive.jsp?colour=colour&map=maxanom&year=1925&month=11&period=daily&area=sa>

From there the humour while still being very very funny takes a turn for the worse in that the same joke is used again and again except in slightly varied forms.

EG: Here again in 1925 but this time in January the BoM remind us of natural variation with a monthly cold spot in the same lower Western corner of S.A.

<http://www.bom.gov.au/jsp/awap/temp/archive.jsp?colour=colour&map=maxanom&year=1925&month=1&period=month&area=sa>

The jokers again have no daily data at all with such a magnitude of cold spot. The reason for this hilarious blunder seems to become obvious as we look closer at the maps.

<http://www.bom.gov.au/jsp/awap/temp/archive.jsp?colour=colour&map=maxanom&year=1925&month=1&period=daily&area=sa>

Here the joke spreads to Western Australia with another large hot zone that is not in agreement with the fictitious data of the daily maps.

<http://www.bom.gov.au/jsp/awap/temp/archive.jsp?colour=colour&map=maxanom&period=month&year=1925&month=12&day=31&area=wa>

Clicking on the "about this map" page leads to a QA description that contains near indecipherable gibberish that seems like an in joke. Reading it multiple times did not help.

"These data have been screened for errors, using an automated technique, and make use of quality control which has been undertaken on the climate database." While this could mean anything it seems to indicate that the QA is only done to data prior to it going into the map generation process but not after. So if the daily data has become perverse before entering the map system and not by it then other databases may have been infected. If the maps are self corrupting instead then only the maps would be so hopeless provided processed data is not later used elsewhere.

The reason the daily data seems to be so funny for those areas could be that faulty theory has somehow been allowed to replace real data. Observers went out in the terrible weather day after day and year after year to record the fine detail of natural variability. Some of these have been rewarded for these stoic and heroic efforts by having their entire records deleted, ignored and replaced with junk. This junk seems to be the product of a system designed to match an unrealistic presupposition. That of pre industrial utopian perfection being a homogenised average of imaginary unchanging stability. This in contrast to early explorers and pioneers who documented the long time locals occasionally resorting to infanticide cannibalism to survive seriously desperate heat and drought extremes between the severe cold, floods and fires.

One such record of past variability that would help to sort things out a bit (at least for 1925 to 32 and the all time averages for S.A.) is the record from William Creek S.A. That a long "weather office" record existed from there is seen from the regular newspaper reports. For example the Adelaide Advertiser of Wednesday 27 January 1932 on page 16.

"117 degrees at Cook in the north-west. This is the highest temperature recorded in South Australia since 1925. when William Creek experienced a similar reading on February 16 of that year. Other high temperatures were:—"

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/29888227>

That the long record from William creek was an official one and that it continued to be maintained by the BoM can be seen from the Adelaide News of Thursday 18 February 1932 on page 10.

"Mr. B. W. Newman, of Adelaide Weather Bureau, left for the interior today. The primary object of his trip is to inspect the new location of meteorological instruments at Alice Springs. He will also examine the instruments at Port Augusta, William Creek, and other stations along the route".

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/128305092>

Entering William Creek here (<http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/data>) with the options set to "Temperature", "Monthly" and "Mean maximum temperature" returns just the latitude and longitude of the place but no data for times before the late 1930s. The system reports no data at all for more than 200 kilometers around. None!

Another long record that could illuminate these areas is from Eucla Telegraph station (not Eucla town). As reported here in the West Australian of Wednesday 25 July 1934.

"The Divisional Meteorologist (Mr. E. B. Curlewis) said yesterday that a temperature of 120.5 degrees on January 11, 1905, and January 3, 1922. was the highest shade temperature recorded at Marble Bar. The highest temperature ever recorded under a Stevenson screen in Western Australia was 123.2 at Eucla in 1906. The Stevenson screen was used by all weather bureaus in the Commonwealth for securing official shade temperatures."

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/32950587>

123.2 degrees F is 50.7 degrees C and that is way higher than the politically correct data.

Entering Eucla here (<http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/data>) brings up no pre 1926 data from this long mutual W.A and S.A record. Just like the dopey contradictions above the ACORN data contradicts that by showing some back to 1913 and this due to the Stevenson screen installation being claimed at that date. Like many "records" it neatly begins at January 1. Did they really work hard and travel in the heat on those rough tracks between December 25 and new years day to set this equipment up back then?

The jokes don't end there it gets too silly for even the religious zealots to maintain the faith. In 1912 just before the supposed Stevenson installation date at Eucla a heatwave hits there as recorded in the Adelaide Register of December 17 that year..

"A severe heat wave is being experienced at Eucla. The temperature for the last four days has been:- Friday, 108; Saturday, 111; Sunday, 103; Monday, 115. Nearly all South Australian stations reported readings over 100 yesterday. Some of the highest were:- Port Augusta, 108; Streaky Bay, 107; and Snowtown, 106. A high pressure system exists over the eastern states, and there is an area of relatively low pressure to the west of South Australia."

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/59242825>

"BLAZING DAY AT EUCLA" reads the headline from the Adelaide Advertiser of the following day. Dec 18 1912.

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/5358210>

With Eucla at 121 degrees F which is 49.4 degrees C. you drop 2 deg C off that for a summer Greenwich/Glaisher stand correction but it is still 22.5 C above the mean December temperature of the new Eucla at 24.9.degree C. This would require an extra six colours above zero on the anomaly daily map which only goes up to +12. The compression of these hot spots into one colour (Brown) helps maintain the near drunken hallucination of such old extremes not being focused into localised non homogenisable spots.

Nothing like that Eucla 1912 heatwave event so well documented by the newspapers occurred according to those maps! Oh no, the silly clown show continues. In that area the edges of the heat take on very unlikely shapes to show just boring average days across a tremendous area of the country including Eucla.

<http://www.bom.gov.au/jsp/awap/temp/archive.jsp?colour=colour&map=maxanom&year=1912&month=12&day=17&period=daily&area=na>

Records of huge old natural climate variations in the Southwest corner of S.A. exist in many places and forms. Some records are non numerical. For example at Ooldea S.A. near those 1925 examples. A local scientist (Daisy Bates OBE) living on the spot wrote them into the Adelaide register of Saturday 28 January 1928 and other issues.

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/55069527>

She notes non official recordings of 126 degrees F. Real daily data should at least agree it was hot if the number is not exact.

Getting back to those maps I would like to draw your attention to perhaps the biggest joke of all. That is the never changing old cool zone in the middle East of Western Australia near the S.A./ N.T. border. I say never changing because it somehow remains with an almost constant daily anomaly just below zero day after day for years from the beginning of the maps on up through these other old dates. Obviously the program deceptively fills old unmeasured areas with fake cold data generated by the system homogenising a theoretical cooler than zero in via the default use of green instead of gray for no data.

Now the jokes are over i would like to offer the BoM the following suggestions.

- 1 Locate the old real daily data.
- 2 Digitise ALL the old real daily data online.
- 3 Use only real daily data to produce these maps not homogenised data in any form..
- 4 Most importantly publish a clear publicly accessible (internet) record of where the erroneous daily data came from and what it has infected (hopefully just those maps).

Also more specifically for the maps.

- 1 Use gray to indicate no data and show no colour for no known anomaly.
- 2 Use white to indicate small + or - 1 anomaly etc to again show no default colour.
- 3 Run simple automated tests on the maps themselves that compare them to each other as above.

Having a deep and long lasting love for real Australian history I am laughing but am also saddened to see junk like this above being presented by the BoM. It is even worse to see so many funding holes that have supposedly checked this stuff also falling for the homogenised unreality error.

Thankyou for your time so far.

Lance Pidgeon.