

Climate Sense by Stephen Wilde.

Here I sit on March 8th 2010, looking out of my window with a bright sun, frost on the grass in the shade all day, no daffodils anywhere near flowering and the snowdrops (normally flowering by late January) the only sign of recovery from a four month cessation of all biosphere activity in my garden in a relatively mild, coastal, rain shadow affected, south facing portion of the UK.

Not quite what were led to expect from all those politically motivated, wild extrapolations from the run of increasingly early springs and nice warm summers and inoffensive winters which we in the UK did undoubtedly observe from the late 1970's to around 2000.

What happened to all that potentially catastrophic warming that was supposed to be a consequence of my (and your) energy profligacy in enjoying the ability to move around freely and quickly, heat our homes adequately in cold weather, entertain and educate ourselves with the TV, reduce death and disease worldwide to an incredible extent, gain instant access to huge reserves of information about anything and everything and communicate with each to an extent previously unheard of in history via computer and internet?

Are we now supposed to accept, without question, the proposition that this obvious current cooling UK climate development is just another predictable and expected consequence of our unrestrained dash towards a climate Armageddon?

Or have we been had?

I've been obsessively interested in weather and climate for over 55 years ever since my late father took me to see the remains of Lynmouth, Devon in the south west of England in the early 1950's. That impressed upon me the power of weather and I have retained and developed my interest ever since.



It was astonishing for a small child to see into the rooms of riverside houses that had lost their entire sides from ground to roof, some being 3 or 4 storeys in height.

Additionally I was given a profound sense of perspective that even now insulates me from the sort of wild imaginings that seem to have led to the current climate concerns. It is clear that in relation to many long past historical climate events and changes there is really nothing special about anything observed in recent years.

It occurs to me that our climate scientists are all like 5 year old children who think that everything they see is a unique event just because it is outside their own direct personal experience.

In 1968 I joined the Royal Meteorological Society as a student member and became a Fellow in 1971.

The modern equivalent would be Associate Fellow, that is a person interested in climate and weather but not professionally qualified.

Just like Al Gore and Professor Stern in fact. Actually there are hardly any true climatologists. Even the warmer in chief, James Hansen, is an astrophysicist rather than a climatologist. Perhaps that is why he seems to have failed to notice the unique Earthly quality of being a water planet which completely upsets all his preconceptions derived from observations of other worlds.

In fact I think I have the edge on the three of them unless they can demonstrate having been as weather aware and as well read on the subject as me over the past half century.

I noticed that when the warming spell started around 1975, or perhaps a little later, we in the UK started getting more winds from the south and southwest. Lots more powerful Azores high pressure systems directing nice balmy air to us at all times of the year and more frequent high pressure over Europe giving us hot spells in summer.

That was a substantial change from the 1950's and 1960's when we often saw dominant high pressure over Greenland and Siberia giving us much more in the way of cold and wet.

In summer the main depression tracks shifted to travel well to the north of Scotland in summer and even in winter we saw long spells when the depression track never came sufficiently southward to trouble the bulk of the UK.

And, furthermore, that poleward latitudinal shift of the air circulation systems was a characteristic of the entire northern hemisphere, indeed both hemispheres!!!

Now we attribute all that to the so called 'climate shift' of the late 70's which coincided with, and in my opinion was caused by, a warming of the ocean surfaces, in the Pacific first of all and in other oceans subsequently.

Clearly that warming of the ocean surfaces pushed all the global air circulation systems poleward with the most noticeable effects on the mid latitudes as they were

bodily shifted from the poleward side of the jet streams to the equatorward side with obvious and surely predictable effects on average temperatures. Interestingly most temperature recording stations are situated in the mid latitude areas that would be most affected.

It's not as if such a thing had never happened before. It had also happened in the 1920's and 1930's resulting in 'Dust Bowl' conditions in the USA and my father and grandfather would tell me of the long warm UK summers they recalled from those times.

Furthermore it seems that the same thing had happened before on a much larger scale in the Mediaeval Warm Period, The Roman Warm Period, the Minoan Warm Period and no doubt before that until one gets back to the last great glaciation 10,000 years ago.

Indeed it seems obvious to me that all the historical accounts of the rise and fall of past civilisations due to climate changes would fit in perfectly with just such periodic latitudinal shifts in the positions of the main air circulation systems and rain bearing systems in particular.

However, during the 1960's and 1970's we had all been made fearful about a coming ice age due to the mid latitude cooling of that period. Some of the warming alarmists today were cooling alarmists at the time but they now deny that the cooling fears were ever part of the 'climate mainstream'. They are wrong, it was.

Anyway, the global air circulation patterns changed in the late 1970's and just a little while later the global warming bandwagon started to roll.

As it was with the cooling so it was then with the warming. It was all proposed to be a consequence of human activity and to avoid disaster it was necessary to adopt draconian measures to control human societal behaviour and indeed the problem was so severe that total control of energy supplies should be imposed from the highest level. A Discovery Channel documentary even asserted that the shift in the jet streams was human induced and permanent.

Never mind that controls over energy supplies globally would put a stop to human development and in the wrong hands could impoverish and enslave every individual on the planet with potentially deadly consequences for the poorest nations.

Then, it all changed again around 2000 and no one said a word about it. The latitudinal position of the mid latitude jets started moving equatorward again. It was obvious to me and I started considering the implications yet it didn't turn up in the climate establishment or the media anywhere. Indeed that Discovery Channel production about the jet streams post dates that turn of the century commencement towards an equatorward shift and is still broadcast to this day.

Meanwhile everything we have heard about global warming climate changes consequent on that earlier warming spell remains stuck in the groove of that earlier and now past climate regime that ended in or about the year 2000.

To some degree the alarmists have been helped by the time lags in the system. That is especially so in relation to the Arctic ice melt which reached a peak in 2007. That melt seems to have caused an outburst of panic despite the fact that similar Arctic melts had occurred in the 1930's and anyway by 2007 the climate system was already reverting to a cooling scenario as evidenced by the equatorward shift of the jet streams that had already begun by 2000.

By early 2008 I had become frustrated by the continuing global warming alarmism in the face of what seemed to me to have been an obvious reversal of the earlier warming shift to now a cooling mode.

Thus it was that I started discussing the matter with alarmist proponents on various internet discussion sites. After a while I was asked by the owner of this site, then just starting out, how it was that I seemed to know 'so much' about climate. After explaining my history I was invited to contribute here and since then for about two years I have been active on various discussion boards including that of Anthony Watts known as 'Watts Up With That'.

It is now becoming clearer by the day that my observations were accurate and that there has been a long term climate shift opposite to the one that occurred around 1975.

I have explored the implications of that in my articles on this site and I have yet to come across serious rebuttals despite much abuse from committed alarmists.

The most interesting thing to me is that once one does accept that the latitudinal shift of the air circulation systems is significant in global climate terms then a lot of climate phenomena fall into place. I have even been able to propose plausible climate scenarios going back to the last ice age by proposing independent cycles of sun and oceans that sometimes combine with one another to effect huge climate changes and sometimes offset one another to create relative climate stability for a while such as that which we have benefited from during the current interglacial.

Needless to say the effect of human activity seems to be either zero or too small to measure in the face of natural climate changes from solar and oceanic influences.

Anyone wishing to read more should have a look at the various articles published by me on this site over the past two years by clicking on this link:

[Articles by Stephen Wilde](#)

I don't claim to have got everything right but there is plenty of food for thought and my descriptions fit ongoing climate changes better than anything that the climate establishment is currently producing.