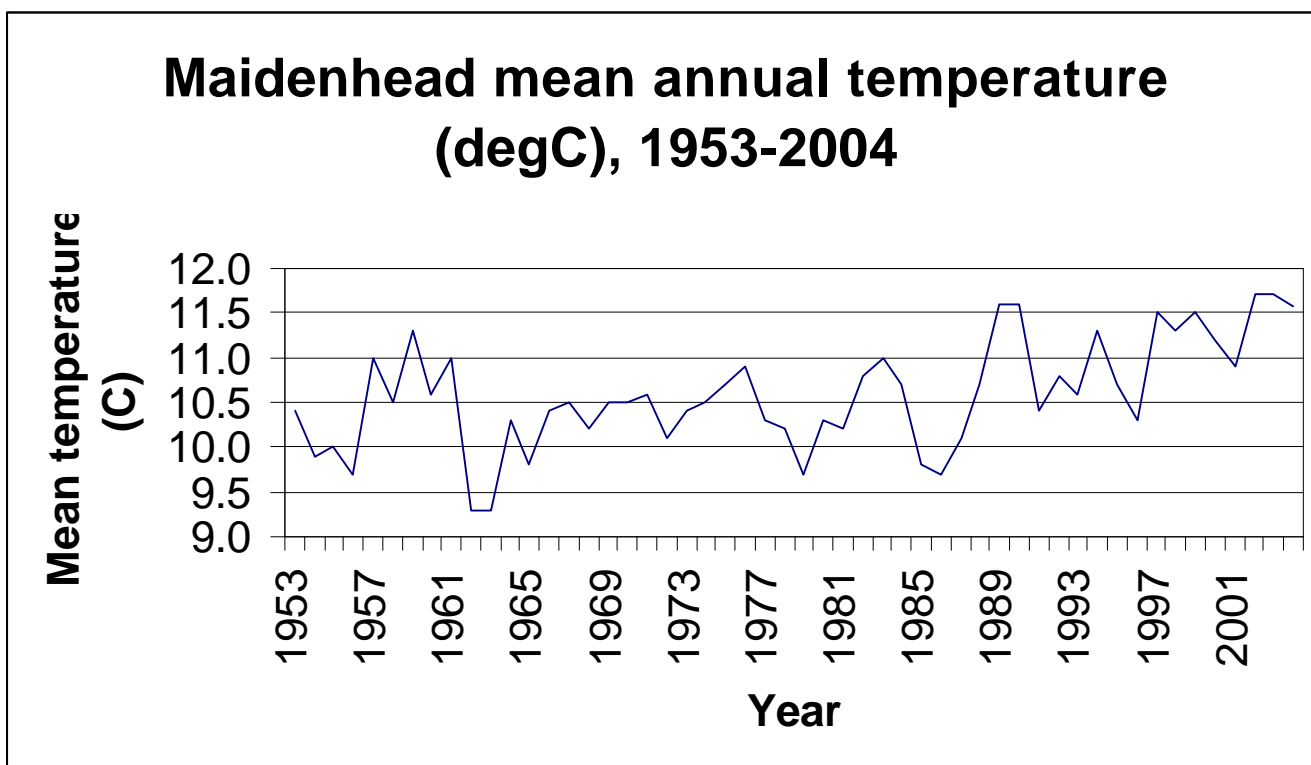


Maidenhead's weather in 2004 turned out to be about average in terms of sunshine and rainfall amounts, but above average temperature-wise. 2004 was the third equal warmest year on record locally.

	Temperature		Rainfall		Sunshine	
	Mean, °C	Anomaly	Total, mm	Percentage of average	Total, hrs	Percentage of average
Jan	5.7	+1.2	80	132	63	128
Feb	6.3	+1.3	24	56	68	101
Mar	7.4	+0.2	41	85	103	101
Apr	10.5	+1.1	69	146	142	99
May	13.7	+0.9	45	89	201	107
June	17.2	+1.8	29	55	222	123
July	17.7	-0.1	35	89	183	94
Aug	19.1	+1.7	90	166	186	99
Sep	16.3	+1.7	24	40	184	140
Oct	11.6	+0.4	130	189	90	90
Nov	8.4	+1.0	34	55	47	76
Dec	5.1	-0.4	45	69	45	111
<b>Year</b>	<b>11.6</b>	<b>+0.9</b>	<b>646.5</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>1534</b>	<b>106</b>

Highest temperature: 30.9°C on 8th August  
 Lowest temperature: -4.7°C on 2nd March  
 Wettest day: 27.3mm on 13th October  
 Lowest ground frost temperature: -9.9°C on 2nd March



January was a mild month with less snow and air frost than normal. The lowest air temperature was just -2.3°C, which is unusually high for the first month of the year.

February was dry and mild and with a much higher mean air pressure than normal. Very little rain fell in the last three weeks although very light snow did fall on four days.

March was a near normal month overall, although it did contain the coldest night of the year (the 2nd). The first ten days continued in a mostly dry vein, with three days of slight snowfall then following.

April was one of four wetter-than-average months during the year. It was also mild, without air frost or snowfall. Unusually low air pressure occurred around the 18th, and the month ended with a sunless final three days.

Warmer-than-average condition continued into May, which was also slightly drier than normal. Exceptionally low air pressure for the time of year occurred on the 4th and 5th.

June was the sunniest month of 2004, being mostly warm and dry until the 17th. The 23rd and 24th were rather windy with unusually low air pressure for a summer month.

July was one of only two months to be colder than average (just). Very little rain fell after the 10th making it the driest July for five years.

August was wet overall with frequent spells of thundery rain. However, we did miss many of the heavier falls that occurred in the east Berkshire area. 20.4°C on the 9th was the highest minimum temperature for nine ears (i.e. the warmest night in this period).

September brought an extension of summer, being warm, dry and sunny overall. 28.1°C on the 5th was the highest September temperature since 1973 and the first ten days were very warm. The evaporation total for September was the second highest in a 13-year record.

Temperatures varied little throughout October, the highest temperature for the month being the lowest in October since 1992. It was easily the wettest month of the year with the lowest mean October air pressure since 1976.

November was warm, dry and dull; extensive cloud led to warm nights and only about the expected frequency of ground frost. Surprisingly, it was only the second November in eight years with snowfall. There were no stormy days with low air pressure.

December was the second colder-than-average month of 2004. Air frosts occurred more frequently than average, but there was only one fall of slight snow (early one morning),

Daily observations made during 2004 can be found at [www.met.rdg.ac.uk/~brugge/data2004.html](http://www.met.rdg.ac.uk/~brugge/data2004.html).

Roger Brugge, 1.1.2005

# MAIDENHEAD METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS FOR 2004

	2004	Climatological normal	Notes
<b>Air temperature (degC)</b>			
Mean maximum	15.5	14.7	
Mean minimum	7.7	6.7	0.1C lower than in 2002
Mean	11.6	10.7	Equal third warmest year since 1953
Highest maximum	30.9	30.0	
Lowest maximum	3.2	0.0	Highest value since 1998
Highest minimum	20.4	18.0	Warmest night since August 1995
Lowest minimum	-4.7	-7.1	Coldest night occurred in March
No. of days with minimum below -5C	0		
No. of days with maximum 25C or more	28		
No. of days with maximum below 0C	0		
No. of days with minimum 15C or more	28		
<b>Grass temperature (degC)</b>			
Lowest minimum	-9.9	-10.9	
Mean grass minimum	4.5		
<b>Soil temperature (degC)</b>			
5cm mean	10.2	9.3	
10cm mean	10.4	9.7	
20cm mean	11.3	10.6	
30cm mean	11.8	11.0	
50cm mean	11.6	10.8	
100cm mean	11.7	10.9	
5cm maximum	21.1		
5cm minimum	0.4		
10cm maximum	21.6		
10cm minimum	0.7		
20cm maximum	21.9		
20cm minimum	2.3		
30cm maximum	21.5		
30cm minimum	3.7		
50cm maximum	20.3		
50cm minimum	4.2		
100cm maximum	18.2		
100cm minimum	5.8		
<b>Sunshine (hr)</b>			
Mean daily sunshine amount	4.19	3.96	
Total sunshine	1534.1	1446.8	
Maximum daily sunshine	15.0	14.7	
Number of sunless days	74	75.1	
No. of days with over 12h	16		
<b>Precipitation (mm)</b>			
Total fall	646.5	653.1	
Highest daily total	27.3	34.2	
No. of days with 0.2mm or more	177	155	
No. of days with 1.0mm or more	127	143	
No. of days with 5.0mm or more	57	43.2	
<b>Number of days with</b>			
Snow or sleet falling	10	11.2	The highest total since 2001
50% snow cover on ground at 0900GMT	2	4.7	
Hail or ice pellets falling	4	4.5	
Thunder heard	11	12.0	The highest total since 2001
Fog at 0900GMT	2	14.0	The lowest total since 1967
Air frost	32	41.1	
Ground frost	91	92.4	
Gale	0	1.9	
<b>Air pressure</b>			
Mean at 0900GMT	1017.8	1016.0	
<b>Miscellaneous</b>			
Mean relative humidity at 0900GMT	83		The highest since 2000
Number of hours with rain	508.5	545.9	
Number of hours with air frost	186.5	319.8	
Most hours of rain in a day	11.7		
Mean cloud cover at 0700GMT (eighths)	5.6		
Mean wind speed at 0700GMT (knots)	4.9		
Total pan evaporation (ml)	533.4	576.5	The lowest since 2001
Greatest daily evaporation (ml)	4.1		