

MAIDENHEAD METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS FOR 2016

A fall of 16.7 mm on rain on the 27 March made this the wettest March day since 2005. May was a wet month, due mainly to 34 mm on the 10th which was the wettest May day since 2007 and the third wettest May day in 35 years locally. We had the dullest June locally since before 1953 with the 4 sunless days being the greatest June total since 6 days in 1988. In the past 18 years only 2007 and 2012 have been wetter in June - in 2016 there were almost twice the number of rain days as normal. Following a maximum temperature of 33.1C on the 19 July, the next night saw the temperature fall no lower than 22.0C - making it the warmest night in the past 28 years here. September was dominated by an unusually late hot day on the 13th when 30.8C was recorded and two violent thunderstorms on the 15th and early 16th (with 1 cm diameter hail and 73.2 mm of rain). The former was the highest temperature recorded locally in September since before 1953; the latter was the second wettest day locally since before 1942. October was sunnier than September while persistent high pressure during December led to frequent and, at times, persistent fog and the driest December since 1991.

	2016	Climatological normal	Notes
Air temperature (degC)			
Mean maximum	15.8	15.1	
Mean minimum	7.2	7.0	
Mean	11.5	11.0	Cooler year since 2013
Highest maximum	33.1	30.9	
Lowest maximum	4.2	0.3	
Highest minimum	22.0	18.5	The highest value in the past 28 years
Lowest minimum	-5.9	-7.0	
No. of days with minimum below -5C	4	3.0	
No. of days with maximum 25C or more	34	25.0	
No. of days with maximum below 0C	0	1.2	
No. of days with minimum 15C or more	33	21.0	
Grass temperature (degC)			
Lowest minimum	-8.0	-10.5	
Mean grass minimum	4.8	4.5	
Soil temperature (degC)			
5cm mean	9.9	9.7	
10cm mean	10.2	9.9	
20cm mean	11.1	10.9	
30cm mean	11.7	11.3	
50cm mean	11.5	11.1	
100cm mean	11.8	11.2	
5cm maximum	21.2		
5cm minimum	0.0		
10cm maximum	21.1		
10cm minimum	0.8		
20cm maximum	21.0		
20cm minimum	2.0		
30cm maximum	19.9		
30cm minimum	3.9		
50cm maximum	18.7		
50cm minimum	4.6		
100cm maximum	17.5		
100cm minimum	6.9		
Sunshine (hr)			
Mean daily sunshine amount	4.39	4.18	
Total sunshine	1605.8	1529.8	The sunniest year since 2014.
Maximum daily sunshine	14.4	14.7	
Number of sunless days	64	67.7	
No. of days with over 12h	16	16.4	
Precipitation (mm)			
Total fall	670.0	660.7	The wettest year since 2014
Highest daily total	73.2	33.7	The second wettest day locally since before 1942
No. of days with 0.2mm or more	162	157.0	
No. of days with 1.0mm or more	110	115.3	
No. of days with 5.0mm or more	40	43.9	
Number of days with			
Snow or sleet falling	5	12.2	
50% snow cover on ground at 0900GMT	0	5.0	
Hail or ice pellets falling	8	4.8	
Thunder heard	11	13.0	
Fog at 0900GMT	11	9.4	The foggiest year since 2013
Air frost	43	40.0	The most air frosts since 2013
Ground frost	96	88.6	The most ground frosts since 2013
Gale	0	1.2	
Air pressure			
Mean at 0900GMT	1016.2	1016.0	
Miscellaneous			
Mean relative humidity at 0900GMT	81	82.0	
Number of hours with rain	513.6	543.9	
Number of hours with air frost	278.8	301.1	Most hours with air frost since 2013
Most hours of rain in a day	14.6		
Mean cloud cover at 0700GMT (eighths)	5.7	5.6	
Mean wind speed at 0700GMT (knots)	3.3	5.1	
Total pan evaporation (ml)	537.8	564.8	The lowest evaporation since 2012
Greatest daily evaporation (ml)	5.9		