

MAIDENHEAD METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS FOR 2018

A warm, dry and sunny year overall. The warmth was noticeable by day, especially during the summer months with July being exceptionally warm. The warmth might not have been expected after some rather cold and snowy weather in February-March, and following some cold days in early April, that led to a delay in the onset of spring. May to November gave a run of consecutive sunny months, and overall 2018 was the sunniest year since 2003 in Maidenhead. At this slightly sheltered site, 60 days reached 25 °C during the year, the highest number of such warm days since before 1953 locally - records at the present site began in 1988. Despite the dry summer, the year overall was only the driest for eight years.

	2018	Climatological normal	Notes
Air temperature (degC)			
Mean maximum	16.5	15.1	Highest since 2014
Mean minimum	7.4	7.0	
Mean	11.9	11.0	Warmest year since 2014
Highest maximum	34.0	30.9	Hottest day since 2015
Lowest maximum	-0.3	0.3	Coldest day since 2012
Highest minimum	18.9	18.5	Highest since 2016
Lowest minimum	-5.2	-7.0	Highest since 2014
No. of days with minimum below -5C	1	3.0	
No. of days with maximum 25C or more	60	25.0	The most hot days locally since before 1953
No. of days with maximum below 0C	1	1.2	
No. of days with minimum 15C or more	43	21.0	The most warm nights since 2006
Grass temperature (degC)			
Lowest minimum	-10.3	-10.5	
Mean grass minimum	5.0	4.5	
Soil temperature (degC)			
5cm mean	10.4	9.7	
10cm mean	10.5	9.9	
20cm mean	11.5	10.9	
30cm mean	11.9	11.3	The highest since 2014
50cm mean	11.7	11.1	
100cm mean	11.9	11.2	Equal highest since 2007
5cm maximum	22.4		
5cm minimum	0.1		
10cm maximum	22.7		
10cm minimum	0.1		
20cm maximum	23.0		
20cm minimum	1.2		
30cm maximum	22.4		
30cm minimum	2.2		
50cm maximum	21.2		
50cm minimum	2.6		
100cm maximum	19.0		
100cm minimum	2.9		
Sunshine (hr)			
Mean daily sunshine amount	4.98	4.18	
Total sunshine	1822.8	1529.8	The sunniest year since 2003
Maximum daily sunshine	15.3	14.7	
Number of sunless days	65	67.7	
No. of days with over 12h	38	16.4	
Precipitation (mm)			
Total fall	596.6	660.7	The driest year since 2010
Highest daily total	19.8	33.7	
No. of days with 0.2mm or more	147	157.0	
No. of days with 1.0mm or more	102	115.3	
No. of days with 5.0mm or more	44	43.9	
Number of days with			
Snow or sleet falling	11	12.2	
50% snow cover on round at 0900GMT	10	5.0	The most since 2010
Hail or ice pellets falling	2	4.8	
Thunder heard	9	13.0	
Fog at 0900GMT	4	9.4	
Air frost	36	40.0	
Ground frost	78	88.6	
Gale	0	1.2	
Air pressure			
Mean at 0900GMT	1015.5	1016.0	
Miscellaneous			
Mean relative humidity at 0900GMT	78	82.0	
Number of hours with rain	556.9	543.9	
Number of hours with air frost	258.0	301.1	
Most hours of rain in a day	17.3		
Mean cloud cover at 0700GMT (eighths)	5.3	5.6	
Mean wind speed at 0700GMT (knots)	3.7	5.1	
Total piche evaporation (ml)	625.5	564.8	The greatest evaporation since 2003
Greatest daily evaporation (ml)	7.0		

Climatological normals refer to 1981-2010