

MAIDENHEAD METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS FOR 2020

2020 was a mild, wet and sunny year. The year began with the mildest January since 2007 and 2008; the month was free of snow and the air pressure on the 20th was the highest locally for over 100 years. Then came the mildest February since 2002 with only one day seeing sleet fall; only the February months in 1990 and 2014 have been wetter locally since 1951. March was dry and very sunny while April was the warmest since 2011, mainly due to many sunny days that led to the second sunniest April since 1953. Then came the second driest May locally since before 1859 and the sunniest May since before 1953. June was slightly wetter and milder than normal. July was a wet month overall, while 36.2C on 31 July was the third highest maximum temperature of any day in the past 70 years. August was the wettest since 2001 and while it was the warmest August since 2003, on the Bank Holiday Saturday the temperature only rose to 16.1C. September was dry and sunny while October was wet and dull with 82.1 mm of rain over the 2nd-3rd. November was mild - as was December except in the final week.

	2020	Climatological normal	Notes
<b>Air temperature (degC)</b>			
Mean maximum	16.5	15.1	Equal highest for six years
Mean minimum	7.6	7.0	Highest since 2017
Mean	12.1	11.0	Equal with 2014, but cooler than 2006
Highest maximum	36.2	30.9	Not as high as in 2003 and 2019
Lowest maximum	1.9	0.3	
Highest minimum	21.2	18.5	Highest since 2016
Lowest minimum	-3.5	-7.0	The highest locally since before 1953
No. of days with minimum below -5C	0	3.0	Lowest count since 2013 (also 0)
No. of days with maximum 25C or more	48	25.0	
No. of days with maximum below 0C	0	1.2	
No. of days with minimum 15C or more	30	21.0	
<b>Grass temperature (degC)</b>			
Lowest minimum	-6.5	-10.5	
Mean grass minimum	5.0	4.5	
<b>Soil temperature (degC)</b>			
5cm mean	10.6	9.7	
10cm mean	10.7	9.9	
20cm mean	11.6	10.9	Highest since 2014
30cm mean	12.2	11.3	Highest on record (back to 1988)
50cm mean	12.0	11.1	
100cm mean	12.1	11.2	Highest on record (back to 1988)
5cm maximum	22.1		
5cm minimum	1.7		
10cm maximum	22.3		
10cm minimum	1.7		
20cm maximum	22.7		
20cm minimum	3.2		
30cm maximum	21.7		
30cm minimum	4.9		
50cm maximum	20.3		
50cm minimum	5.5		
100cm maximum	18.4		
100cm minimum	7.4		
<b>Sunshine (hr)</b>			
Mean daily sunshine amount	5.02	4.18	
Total sunshine	1835.8	1529.8	Sunniest since 2003
Maximum daily sunshine	15.1	14.7	
Number of sunless days	63	67.7	
No. of days with over 12h	33	16.4	
<b>Precipitation (mm)</b>			
Total fall	787.6	660.7	Wettest since 2014
Highest daily total	41.3	33.7	
No. of days with 0.2mm or more	166	157.0	
No. of days with 1.0mm or more	118	115.3	
No. of days with 5.0mm or more	50	43.9	Highest count since 2014
<b>Number of days with</b>			
Snow or sleet falling	1	12.2	Lowest since 2014
50% snow cover on ground at 0900GMT	0	5.0	
Hail or ice pellets falling	6	4.8	
Thunder heard	11	13.0	
Fog at 0900GMT	5	9.4	Lowest since 2 days in 2004
Air frost	28	40.0	The least since 2011
Ground frost	86	88.6	
Gale	0	1.2	
<b>Air pressure</b>			
Mean at 0900GMT	1014.9	1016.0	
<b>Miscellaneous</b>			
Mean relative humidity at 0900GMT	77	82.0	
Number of hours with rain	577.8	543.9	
Number of hours with air frost	137.4	301.1	
Most hours of rain in a day	22.0		
Mean cloud cover at 0700GMT (eighths)	5.3	5.6	
Mean wind speed at 0700GMT (knots)	4.0	5.1	
Total piche evaporation (ml)	628.7	564.8	
Greatest daily evaporation (ml)	6.5		

Climatological normals refer to 1981-2010