

BOGNOR REGIS

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

AUGUST 2003

RAINFALL

44.3mm (1.74ins) on 7 days.
Greatest fall in 24 hours (09-09h) 22.3mm (0.88ins) on 28th.
August 2002 total rainfall - 54.5mm (2.14ins) on 10 days.
January to August 2003 - 295.7mm (11.64ins)
January to August 2002 - 539.9mm (21.25ins)

TEMPERATURES

Highest Maximum	- 29.3°C (84.8°F) on 10th.
Lowest Maximum	- 15.2°C (59.3°F) on 29th.
Highest Minimum	- 20.7°C (69.2°F) on 6th.
Lowest Minimum	- 8.5°C (47.3°F) on 31st.
Lowest Grass	- 7.1°C (44.7°F) on 31st.

SUNSHINE

August 2003 - 265.7 hours on 30 Days.
August 2002 - 222.7 hours on 31 days.
Maximum sunshine in 24 hours - 14.6 hours on 2nd.
January to August 2003 - 1579.8 hours.
January to August 2002 - 1383.9 hours.

SUMMARY

August produced some very high day temperatures during the first half of the month, but a return to temperatures nearer to the average during the latter half resulted in the overall mean temperatures, although well above the seasonal average, being a little lower than those for 1997 and 1995. It was a dry month up to 26th with just 3-6mm recorded. A mini-deluge between 27th and 29th (40.7mm) pushed the total for the month near to the seasonal average of 49.63mm.

The month began with pressure rising over the U.K. The first of the month was cloudy, but thereafter it became warm with plenty of sunshine. Temperatures continued to rise and, with high pressure continuing to dominate the weather scene, there began a period of very hot weather. Temperatures inland escalated into the mid to top 30's although there was some respite in Bognor Regis from ever present cooling on shore breezes. The highest temperature for the month, 29.3°C (84.8°F), on 10th. This however was followed in the early hours of 11th by a short spell of light showers with some thunder (1.8mm) to bring to an end a spell of eleven dry days. The weather continued to be dominated by high pressure and, although a little unsettled on 17th and 18th, it remained warm. On 23rd the weather again became unsettled with a shortage of sunshine to include the Bank Holiday which was cloudy. Temperatures however remained above the average. Frontal activity brought heavy rain to the area (10.7mm) during the night 27/28 to be followed on 28th with heavy rain (15.7mm) together with outbreaks of thunder. There was some local flooding. There were showers on 29th, but the last two days of the month were dry and sunny to provide the Birdman Rally with perfect weather conditions.

The rainfall total of 44.3mm was short of the seasonal average of 49.63mm.

The sunshine total of 265.7 hours was well above the seasonal average of 232.2 hours. It was the sunniest since 1998 (311.0 hours).

The mean maximum temperature of 23.2°C and minimum of 14.5°C were both well above their respective seasonal averages of 20.1°C and 13.6°C. The warmest since 1997. (23.5°C/15.5°C)

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