

BOGNOR REGIS

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

MAY 2003

RAINFALL

28.2mm (1.11ins) on 16 days. Greatest fall in 24 hours (09.09h) 5.2mm (0.20ins) on 12th.

May 2002 total rainfall - 74.3mm 2.92ins) on 16 days.

January to May 2003 - 185.3mm (7.29ins)

January to May 2002 - 343.1mm (13.5ins)

TEMPERATURES

Highest Maximum - 24.6°C (76.2°F) on 29th.

Lowest Maximum - 12.5°C (54.5°F) on 16th

Highest Minimum - 12.7°C (54.8°F) on 22nd

Lowest Minimum - 26°C (36.6°F) on 15th.

Lowest Grass - 1.2°C (34.1°F) on 15th.

SUNSHINE

May 2003 - 226.4 hours on 28 days. May 2002 - 235.9 hours on 31 days.

Maximum sunshine in 24 hours - 14.3 hours on 26th.

January to May 2003 - 821.9 hours. January to May 2002 - 721.9 hours.

SUMMARY

May was a bit of a disappointment to the sun seekers and could be summed up as a month in which sunshine and showers predominated albeit the showers were never heavy and most often of short duration. The month continued the dry trend to the year with the rainfall well below the seasonal average, Day temperatures too were again above the seasonal average and the high dry temperatures recorded on the last four days of the month especially 29th with 24.6°C were in excess of some Mediterranean resorts. London, with it's built in storage heaters, hit an all time high of 27.0°C. The month began with a depression centred over the U.K. The first two days of the month were wet and windy with gale force winds recorded during the afternoon of 2nd. Pressure began to rise to the west of the U.K. on 5th. The winds slackened and the weather became more settled. On 6th, a twister crossed the promenade from the sea during late morning. It was a very strong narrow belt of wind sufficient to cause some chaos for a short time in the area of the market. On 8th, the weather became a little unsettled as a result of the high pressure moving away. It became cloudier. Between 10th and 14th the weather was dominated by frontal activity with showers and sunny periods the order of the day. Day and night temperatures dropped to well below their seasonal averages with night ground frosts just averted. A slow moving occluded front brought a day of continuous light rain on 16th. The weather continued unsettled with sunshine and showers up to the 26th when, with pressure rising, it became warmer with plenty of sunshine. Pressure continued to rise through to the end of the month which went out on a hot, dry, and sunny note.

The rainfall total of 28.2mm was well below the seasonal average of 40.75mm. It was the driest May since 1999 (13.5mm)

The sunshine total of 226.4 hours was just below the seasonal average of 235.7 hours.

The mean maximum temperature of 17.5°C was well above the seasonal average of 15°C

Whilst the mean minimum of 8.8°C was Almost on par with the seasonal minimum of 8°C. It was the warmest May since 1998 (19.2°C & 9.8°C)

A.E.S. 04 JUN 03