

BOGNOR REGIS

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

MAY 2006

RAINFALL

57.2mm, (2.25ins) on 11 days.

Greatest fall in 24 hours (09-09h) - 13.4mm (0.53ins) on 11th, and 31st.

May 2005 total rainfall - 23.2mm (0.91ins) on 14 days.

January to May 2006 - 211.3mm (8.32ins)

January to May 2005 - 176.0mm (6.93ins)

TEMPERATURES

Highest Maximum -18.3°C (65.0°F on 3rd, 4th, and 10th.

Lowest Maximum -12.7°C (54.8°F) on 2nd.

Highest Minimum -12.3°C (54.1°F) on 27th.

Lowest Minimum -5.7°C (42.2°F) on 30th.

Lowest Grass -3.7°C (38.6°F) on 2nd.

SUNSHINE

May 2006 - 197.5 hours on 29 days.

May 2005 - 249.9 hours on 30 days.

Maximum sunshine in 24 hours - 13.4 hours on 11th and 31st.

January to May 2006 - 642.8 hours.

January to May 2005 - 718.2 hours.

SUMMARY

May was an unsettled and wet month with low pressure areas and a series of rain bearing Atlantic weather fronts dominating the weather scene for much of the time. Sunshine hours were well below the seasonal average, although temperatures were close to the seasonal average. Between the 18th and the 24th of the month the area was subjected to a period of strong winds. Most times the winds were gusty and in localised areas could have occasionally reached gale force although were mainly near gale.

The month began with heavy rainfall during the night 31/01 (15.3mm to be followed by a sunny day. It remained dry for the first five days with above average day temperatures and a fair amount of sunshine. Sea fog during the middle of the day considerably reduced the sunshine on the 5th. Frontal activity during night 7/8 brought rain to the area (6.0mm). From 9th to the 15th it was generally dry, warm, with plenty of sunshine. Frontal activity brought heavy rain to the area during the afternoon of 16th (6.7mm). Low pressure began to dominate the weather scene on 19th bringing unsettled weather to the area. Between 19th and 24th the area was subjected to strong winds and rain with sunshine in short supply. The weather continued unsettled although pressure began to rise towards the end of the month with a hint of some summer weather to come.

The rainfall total of 57.2mm was well above the seasonal average of 40.75mm, the wettest since 2002.

The sunshine total of 197.5 hours was well below the seasonal average of 235.7 hours - the dullest since 1994.

The mean maximum temperature of 15.7°C and minimum of 9.7°C were both above their respective seasonal averages of 15.3°C and 8.7°C.

ADDENDUM

The Daily Telegraph 2nd June 2006:- "It was the wettest May for 27 years with more than double the average rainfall The Met. Office affirmed that the 4.4ins. (112.5mm) of rain that fell across England and Wales was exceptional compared to the seasonal average of 2.5 ins. (66.0mm). It was the wettest since 1979.11 Bognor Regis's contribution to the water shortage would appear small by comparison."

