

July 8

# July was so dry

July was an abnormally dry month, with air temperatures well up to expectation and winds predominantly westerly and light.

Rainfall of 20mm (0.78ins), recorded at the Halesowen Climatological Station was a mere 30 per cent of the normal for the month, making this the third driest July since 1946.

The wettest day, July 3, produced 6mm (0.23ins) in a local thunderstorm lasting 19 minutes. In all, only nine days had rain, four days being "wet" and two "very wet."

Bright sunshine at 158 hours was 90 per cent of the expected total, the sunniest day being July 4 with 13 hours, each day having had measurable sunshine.

Temperatures were well up to normal, ranging from 25.6C (78F) on July 3, to 7.1C (45F) on July 25, when temperatures fell to 3.0C (37F) on the ground.

Air pressure has been normal, being highest on July 27 when a ridge from the Azores Anticyclone pushed across the country. The month, in this area, was marked by a lack of low pressure systems.

Total wind run was 4,932 miles, giving a daily run of 159 miles at seven mph, gusts of 31 mph occurring on July 16.

Thunder was heard on two days, July 3 and 9, there being no incidence of either hail or fog.

*C.G. Roberts*