

## JULY SUMMARY

June ran into July with little appreciable change in the predominant weather patterns. Pressure remained high to the south west of the country with low-pressure centres over parts of the near Continent. This maintained a southerly airflow across the UK bringing in hot Continental air raising daytime maxima as high as 27C [80.6F] on the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Night minima were also high, 17.7C [63.9F] being the lowest reached during the night of the 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup>. Sunshine was appreciable too, the first 2 days totalling 12.2 hours with no rain at all falling. The weather continued unsettled and oppressive for much of the time with temperatures exceeding 21C [70F] every day and peaking at 29.6C [85.3F] on the 5<sup>th</sup>.

Days remained sunny, the total for the week reaching 43.8 hours, 23 hours of this occurring on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. By the end of the week low pressure brought thundery activity to the area with nearby storms on the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>, one over Quinton on the 7<sup>th</sup> depositing 32.1mm [1.26ins] of rain in an hour and a half and bringing the Test Match at Edgbaston to a standstill. However, the total rain for the week here amounted to no more than 9.2mm [0.36in] this falling on the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>.

The second week saw winds moving into a westerly or southwesterly direction bringing in cooler air from the Atlantic. Maximum temperatures were in the mid to upper teens, peaking at 19.5C [67.1F] on both the 9<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. It became far more unsettled with rain every day except on the 8<sup>th</sup>, though three days produced no more than a trace. The heaviest fall of 10.9mm [0.43in] occurred on the 13<sup>th</sup> during another thunderstorm when rain was falling at a rate of 86mm [3.39in] per hour.

It was, however, a sunny week some sun being recorded every day with the maximum duration of 10 hours on the 12<sup>th</sup> bringing the total for the week to 36.6 hours. Winds were, on the whole, fairly light on most days, exceptions being the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> when gusts reached 28 and 33 knots [32 and 38 mph] respectively.

By the start of the third week conditions were looking even more unsettled as a deep Atlantic depression approached the country. This brought in exceptionally heavy rain on the 17<sup>th</sup> when 39.1mm [1.54ins] of rain fell in 17 hours at a rate of 42mm [1.65ins] per hour at 1350 GMT causing local flash floods in many rural areas. The Midlands had no less than 6 Flood warnings in operation as a result of these storms. The remainder of the week continued unsettled with showery conditions prevailing and depressed temperatures, giving a total rainfall of 45.9mm [1.81ins], one of the wettest weeks for many months. However, in compensation, there was only one day without sun [18<sup>th</sup>] and the total for the week amounted to 32.9 hours. The highest maximum temperature was 20.8C [69.4F] on the 16<sup>th</sup>, most other days peaking in the mid to upper teens.

The final full week of the month saw a change to much more settled, and hotter, weather as high pressure became established over the country. No measurable rain fell for the entire week and temperatures soared reaching a maximum of 28.2C [82.8F] on the 28<sup>th</sup> and with 5 days producing maxima over 21C [70F]. During this period the night minima remained high, that of the night of the 26<sup>th</sup>/27<sup>th</sup> falling no lower than 14.2C [57.6F]. The sun shone every day totalling 57.7 hours for the week and peaking at 12.2 hours on the 26<sup>th</sup>. However, the "hot" spell was to prove short-lived.

The final three days saw frontal systems encroaching from the north as the high pressure collapsed though temperatures remained very high peaking at 28C [82F] on the 29<sup>th</sup>. A little light drizzle occurred on the 31<sup>st</sup> as a very weak and decaying front passed southwards over the area virtually bringing the fine spell to an end.