

## AUGUST SUMMARY.

August was a month of very mixed weather. Mean air temperatures managed to maintain values in excess of the 30-year means, the nights being well above by 1.4°C, this due to the rather excessive amounts of cloud that plagued much of the month. The highest maximum of 27°C/80.6°F on the 17<sup>th</sup> was 0.3°C below average and the lowest figure since 2000. The lowest night minimum of 8.5°C/47.3°F was the highest figure since 1990. The warmest night on the 6<sup>th</sup> with its 15°C/59°F was the lowest value since 1992. Grass minima, on the other hand, held up well [heavy cloud layers] falling no lower than 5.2°C/41.4°F on the 22<sup>nd</sup>, the best figures since 1997.

Rainfall was down on average by 27%, quite appreciable, with rain on just 10 days, the lowest since 1995 that had 5. This was unusual in view of the 4 thunderstorms that occurred, though we missed the worst of the rainfall associated with these. The highest intensity came from one storm on the 3<sup>rd</sup> when rain was falling at a rate of 126mm/4.96in per hour for a few seconds.

Sunshine was also below average with 2 sunless days, about normal for the month, though the maximum daily total of 12.2 hours on the 21<sup>st</sup> was a little below expectation. We have to go back to 1987 to find a duller August.

Radiation temperatures peaked at 59.6...C/139.3°F on the 17<sup>th</sup> with global radiation levels now falling off rapidly, the last date to see a value in excess of 1 kilowatt per square metre being the 13<sup>th</sup> with 1.007 kilowatts per square metre.

Winds were northerly on 5 days and light in general, the peak gust of 27-knots/32-mph occurring on the 3<sup>rd</sup>. There was just one “hot” day [maximum  $\geq$  25°C/77°F] on the 17<sup>th</sup> though 5 days were “sunny” [in excess of 9 hours daily] and 1 day “very sunny” [in excess of 12 hours daily]. In general the month was reasonable overall with no major deviations from the means.