

Bracknell Harmanswater Daily summary – October 2004

October

After a coolish night with minimum of 7.4c the 1st began sunny with calm conditions, but cloud soon moved into the area and it remained cloudy and cool all day with a maximum of 15.9c. Outbreaks of rain fell during the evening. The 2nd was a brighter day with more sunshine but it was a little warmer with max of 17.3c the highest of the month. The afternoon was showery, with some heavy bursts. The 3rd was generally cool with cloudy conditions and outbreaks of rain, max 14.6c The 4th began with a wet start to the day brighter later. Max 16.6c. The 5th was generally cloudy with a few showers, although there were some sunny spells. Max 16.7 The 6th started sunny, but showers moved into the area, some quite blustery and heavy bursts of rain. Max 15.3c The 7th was generally sunny but with patchy cloud. Max 15.3c The 8th was dry with sunny spells, max 15.0c The 9th was a dry but generally cloudy day max 14.7. The 10th began with a stiff easterly breeze making it feel quite cool but it was dry with max of 14.7c. The 11th felt cold with again a stiff easterly / north-easterly breeze. It remained dry during daylight hours and there were sunny spells. The 12th began as a 'damp day' with outbreaks of rain, it felt coldish in the Ne'yly breeze and it remained dull all day with Nil sunshine, and a maximum of only 13.0c. The 12th began cloudy at first during the early hours with fog forming as the cloud cleared with visibility of 800m at 0700hr. However, the fog had cleared by 0900hr as cloud with showers moved into the area. Further showers in the afternoon until 1630hr when the wind veered SE to S and sunny intervals developed. Further showers later afternoon. Maximum 14.7c. The 14th began with outbreaks of rain from 0030hr. There was a 20 sec peel of thunder at 0515hr, which is most noteworthy. The thunder was close to Harmanswater but to the SE. A further peel of thunder was heard at 0645hr. Moderate rain fell at 0515-0700hr when 11.0mm were recorded causing localised flooding. There was 21.7mm recorded 0900 (13th) -0900hr (14th). Thereafter, it remained cloudy for most of the day with a little sunshine around mid day. Large Cb around area during the afternoon, some showers and some limited sunshine. Fog developed late afternoon in sheltered areas, such as 'Calfridus Way' playing fields. The 15th was another dull day with 0.05hrs sunshine and outbreaks of light rain, with some moderate bursts. It was quite cold with maximum of only 10.6c (equal lowest of the month with 16th). The 16th had a cloudy damp and misty start with outbreaks of light rain by late morning. The afternoon continued with outbreaks of rain and again it was dull with nil sunshine. The 17th was a little brighter after a cloudy start, there were a few showers around but it was generally dry and a little warmer with 11.9c maximum. The 18th was much improved with 6.77 hrs of sunshine and a max. of 14.2c and it felt quite pleasant, it also remained dry. The 19th began with clear skies allowing the minimum of 2.5 to be recorded and a ground frost -1.6c the lowest of the month However cloud and showers moved into the area, which then died out during the morning. The afternoon was dull with outbreaks of rain. Sunshine amounted to 0.01hrs and max 13.3c . The 20th was windy with a gust of 30.4knots at 2345hr. There was also a rapid fall in pressure from 1000.2mb at 0015hr to 990.0mb at 0745hr a fall of 10.2mb in 7.5hrs. Showers and more prolonged rain overnight amounted to 7.7mm by 0900hr. Another dull day with outbreaks of rain Moderate heavy rain during the period 2100-2230hr caused localised flooding with 16.1mm falling in 1 hour, the 8th highest 1 hour total since records began in 1984

and 13.2mm in 30 mins. 7.0mm in 15 mins, both commencing at 2100hr. The lowest pressure reading of the month was recorded at 2045hr 987.2mb. The 21st was a stark contrast to 24 hours earlier, bright sunny and pleasant with 9.08 hrs of sunshine, the highest of the month. However, it was windy by midday and again 30.4 knot gust was recorded at 1230hr. Some minor tree damaged was noted around the area. The 22nd was again windy but sunshine was very limited but it was dry. The gusty winds brought down two large trees on the A322 'Horse & Groom' roundabout in Bracknell, which caused traffic disruption mid afternoon. (see photographs to the right). A maximum gust of 26.1 knots was recorded at Harmanswater. 09-21 hr max was 15.3c. The 23rd began very mild with a temperature of 15.5c at 0230hr. which amended the 0900-0900hr max for the 22nd to 15.5c. Minimum 14.1 the highest of the month. This does tend to happen during the 'winter' months normally when colder maritime polar air is replaced by milder maritime tropical (MT) air. However, the MT air was laden with moisture and produced outbreaks of light rain with some moderate bursts at times. It was again windy, with the afternoon wet, windy but mild. By 0900hr on the 24th 17.8mm of rain had been recorded and a max. of 15.5c. Only 0.12hrs of bright sunshine (around 1200hr) when the max. was recorded. The 24th was generally dry after midnight but cloudy and mild. There were some sunny spells during the day, but by late afternoon showers moved into the area. The wind had increased during the late afternoon and the gusty wind damaged a large tree bough on the railway embankment just to the east of Ralphs Ride bridge. Max. for 24th was 16.7c After a dry but windy night the 25th was a day of sunny spells, there were some isolated showers around the area but Harmanswater remained dry. Wind eased throughout the day. Max 14.2c. The 26th was a much calmer day, under the influence a 'bump' of high pressure. The day was generally sunny spells, it again was a dry day with a max of 14.0c. The 27th began cool after a ground frost under clear skies, but cloud soon moved into the area before dawn with cloudy dull conditions prevailing all day until late afternoon when rain fell. The evening was damp and windy. Max 11.8 (09-21hr) The 28th saw a mild night with temperature at 0900hr 12.7c beating



the max of yesterday The overnight minimum was 9.8 at 2100hr. A breezy day with showers some sunshine in the afternoon. The 29th was another damp/dull day with little brightness max 14.0c The 30th began damp and dull but brighter conditions moved into the area during the afternoon, max 15.3c The 31st was dry with with some sunny spells and a max of 13.6c.

The month in summary The highest daily maximum of 17.3 on the 2nd was the 3rd lowest since 1971 (34 years) and the lowest since 1992 (17.2), with only 1974 (13.1) lower (equal 17.3c in 1982). By contrast the highest minimum of 14.1 on 23rd was the highest since 1999 (6 years) Rainfall total of 126.2mm (173%) was the 6th wettest October since 1971. And 22 rain days and 18 wet days were the highest since 2000. Mean maximum of 14.4 c (-0.2c) but mean minimum was 8.0c (+1.3c) therefore mean temperature 11.2c +0.5.

Paul Fishwick FRMetS Observer e-mail P.fishwick@tesco.net.

Web site www.bracknell-berkshire.co.uk/services/weather