

July began with sunshine and showers on the 1st and fairly breezy conditions. A rainbow was observed over Birch Hill Bracknell at 1950-55hr together with a secondary bow. The 2nd was another breezy day with sunshine and showers, some large Cb observed but no thunder heard. It was cooler than normal. The 3rd was another day of sunshine and showers and again it was cooler than normal. The 4th was similar with a late maximum occurring at 1745hr due to some late sunshine. Following the coldest night minimum of the month (equal with 6th and 13th) 8.2c the 5th was at last a dry day with 12.25hrs of sunshine. It was also the first day with temperature at or above the normal maximum 22.4c The 6th was similar and it felt like a 'normal summers' days. The 7th went 'downhill' rapidly with increasing NE'ly wind and by the afternoon there was extensive tree damage. Moderate to heavy rain at times as 5.1mm was recorded in the hour commencing 1600hr and the wettest day of the month 17.9mm was recorded (51% of total rainfall for the month). The 5th was also a day of contrasts with 21.0c being recorded at 1200hr and temperature falling to around 11 to 13c for most of the afternoon during high winds and rain. A nice summers day!. The 8th was 'calmer' with showers and



thunder mid afternoon. The lowest pressure of the month was recorded at 1230hr 1004.2mb. A 'Roll Cloud' was observed over Staines at 1449hr – see photo.

The 9th was dry but generally cloudy. The 10th was a day of sunshine and showers with thunder at 1130-35hr to the north of Bracknell – Binfield had heavy rain reported around this time. The 11th was a cloudy and cool day with the lowest maximum of the month 17.9c The 12th was dull, with the lowest

sunshine recorded for the month only 0.48hrs but it was at least dry however still cool. The 13th saw some improvements with temperatures beginning to rise during the day after an equal lowest minimum 8.2c. (lowest grass minimum of 3.9c). Rainfall on the morning of the 14th at 0715-35hr produced possible Sahara dust. A cool cloudy day suddenly brightened late afternoon with a maximum of 22.5c at 1700hr. (A day with a maximum above normal!.) The 15th was much warmer with a warm night but it remained cloudy. The first half of the month 1st to 15th had seen the maximum equal or rise above the normal 22.4 (1971-2000 average) on only 4 days two of these were 14th and 15th. The 16th saw the highest minimum of the month 16.4c. However, generally cloudy conditions prevailed with sunshine late afternoon / evening. The 17th was again cloudy but warm / very warm with sunshine late afternoon. Showers fell on the 18th (0815-0915hr), with the cloudy conditions gradually clearing to allow sunny spells. The 19th was much sunnier with 10.30hrs and quite pleasant with warm conditions. A more cloudy day on the 20th with some light showers in the late afternoon / evening. The 21st was dull but dry however it was warm reaching 22.8c. It was another dull but dry day on the 22nd with temperature reaching 26.2c at 1330hr during a sunny spell. The 23rd was hot and sunny and summer had returned as 13.33hrs of sunshine were recorded the highest of the month.

The 25th was very warm but cloudier with 4.83hrs of sunshine. The 26th was also cloudy with near normal maximum. Similar conditions prevailed on the 27th. The 28th saw an improvement with less cloud and more sunshine with temperature rising to 25.4c The 29th was hot and generally sunny although some patchy cloud around especially in the afternoon. There was a possible Sahara dust fall in a light shower at 2200-30hr. Sunny spells and hot on the 30th, but feeling 'humid' at times. The 31st saw the highest maximum of the month 29.2c recorded at a late time of 1700hr. The day was cloudy at first with sunny spells developing and it became hot in the sunshine, with 10.07hrs recorded.

A month of two halves, the first half cool and generally poor conditions for July with 9 rain days occurring in the first 15 days and only 2 the last 16. The second half of the month raised the temperature above normal to record an 'average' month. If the first 15 days temperatures had continued into the second half the month could have been one of the top 5 coldest in the area since records began 100 years ago. Rainfall was 78% of average making it the 8th driest on record (since 1973). However, there was a 14 day 'dry' spell in the last 14 days and only 2% of the total rainfall fell in the last half of the month. Sunshine was disappointingly low with only 82% of normal

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