

WOKINGHAM METEOROLOGICAL DATA

Wokingham Climatological Station, Emmbrook, Berkshire.

Lat/Long 51°25'N 00°51'W NGR (SU)800699 Altitude 44m ASL.

Monthly Means and Totals

SEPTEMBER 2003

Temperature (°C / °F)			Anomaly	Rank			
Mean maximum	21.6	70.9	+2.7	6 th highest in 122 years			
Mean minimum	8.0	46.4	-1.7	28 th lowest in 122 years			
Daily mean	14.8	58.6	+0.5	22 nd highest in 122 years			
Highest maximum	27.7	81.9	on 17 th	Lowest maximum	15.3	59.5	on 23 rd
Highest minimum	15.4	59.7	on 22 nd	Lowest minimum	0.8	33.4	on 24 th
Mean grass minimum	4.5	40.1		Lowest grass minimum	-2.8	27.0	on 24 th
Mean earth @30 cm	16.5	61.7	+0.4	Earth @100 cm	17.3	63.1	+0.8
Frost duration (hrs)	0.0			Rain duration (hrs)	6.3		
Rainfall total (mm / in)	6.6	0.26	11 %	3 rd lowest in 122 years			
Highest daily fall	5.2	0.20	on 22 nd				
Number of: Dry days (<0.2mm)	25	Wet days (>0.9mm)	1	days ≥5mm	1		
Sunshine total (hrs)	215.7	Daily mean	7.19	151 %	Sunniest day	12.8	on 4 th
N ^o days with: Air frost	0	Ground frost	3	Snow falling	0	Snow lying	0
Thunder	0	Hail ≥5mm	0	Small hail/ice	0	Fog @09	0
						Nil sun	0
Air pressure MSL : Mean @09 GMT (mbar/in)	1020.9		+4.4	30.15			
Absolute highest		1033.4		30.52		on 24 th	
Absolute lowest		1001.4		29.57		on 22 nd	

Anomaly = departure from 1971 to 2000 average.

Notes: **Warm. Very Dry. Very Sunny.**

Temperature. A notable feature of this month's temperatures is the large anomalies of opposite sign between the mean maximum and mean minimum. Whilst the mean maximum ranks 6th highest in 122 years, and has not been exceeded since 1959, the mean minimum ranks 28th lowest, and has been exceeded every year since 1986. This large difference came about mainly due to less cloud than normal, giving warm sunny days and cool clear nights, coupled with lighter than normal winds (see below). The resulting mean daily temperature range of 13.6° is 4.2° above normal and highest for September since 1898. The month's highest temperature, 22.7°, is 3.4° above the median and is highest since 1991. Conversely, the month's lowest value, 0.8°, is 1.8° below the median and is lowest since 1969. The first ground frost of the season occurred on the 24th, after a frost-free period of 131 days, and the grass minimum of -2.8° on that day is lowest for September since 1987. **Rainfall.** Another notable feature of this September is its very meagre rainfall. At just 6.6 mm, this month's total is lowest since 1959, with September 1941 the only other one to record less in the past 122 years. The single daily fall of 5.2 mm on the 22nd accounts for 79 % of the total, with no other daily fall greater than 0.6 mm. Dry spells of 6 days, 10 days and 8 days ended on the 4th, 21st and 30th resp. The number of wet days, 1, is equal lowest with 1959 in the past 92 years, (average 9). **Sunshine.** A third notable feature of this month's weather is the amount of sunshine. The daily mean of 7.19 hours is most since 1959, and is 51 % above average. The 5 day spell 13th to 17th was outstanding, producing a total of 60.6 hours, a mean of 12.1 hours per day. Overall there were 7 days with <3 hours, 18 with ≥6 hours, 12 with ≥9 hours and 5 with ≥12 hours. **Wind.** The mean speed of 3.9 mph is 1.9 mph below average, and lowest for September in the past 16 years. It is also equal lowest with November 1988 for any month in that period. The month's windiest day, 8.3 mph on the 22nd, is also a new lowest for September. The highest gust of 32 mph was also on the 22nd. The 3rd was the least windy day, mean 1.7 mph, and there were 96 hours with a mean speed of 0.5 mph or less, exactly twice the average. Daily mean direction/number of days: N,2 NE,1 E,1 SE,3 S,6 SW,9 W,6 NW,2. **Humidity.** The overall mean relative humidity was 71.8 %, and the lowest value of 22 % was on the 14th. The mean humidity mixing ratio at 1500 GMT was 7.1 g of water vapour per kg of air. **Commentary.** From the 1st to the 10th: Daily maxima ranged from 2° below normal on the 1st to 5° above on the 5th, with a mean anomaly of +1.7°. Daily minima ranged from 3° below normal on the 2nd, 7th and 8th to 4° above on the 3rd, with a mean anomaly of -0.2°. Rainfall was a meagre 1.0 mm, 5 % of normal, and the mean sunshine of 5.3 hours per day was 110 % of normal. Light or moderate winds were W'ly on 1st, backing SE'ly on 4th, veering W'ly on 6th, temporarily becoming E'ly on the 8th. From the 11th to the 20th: The 10 day mean anomalies for max and min were +5.3° and -1.4° resp., with individual anomalies of +9° for the maximum on the 17th, the month's hottest day, and -3° for the minimum on the 15th. Almost completely dry, 9 dry days and a total of just 0.4 mm, 2 % of normal. Very sunny, a daily mean of 8.9 hours, 185 % of normal. Light SW'ly winds on the 11th veered N'ly on 12th then S'ly on 13th, becoming moderate SW'ly on 17th, decreasing light on 20th. From the 21st to the 30th: mean anomalies for max and min were +1.3° and -3.1° resp. A change to cooler conditions occurred on the 22nd, with individual anomalies for maxima dropping from +6° on the 21st to -3° on the 23rd, and an anomaly of -8° for the minimum on the 24th, the month's coldest night. Although there were 9 dry days, a total of 5.2 mm on the 22nd gave 25 % of the 10 day normal. It was still sunny overall, with a daily mean of 7.4 hours, 154 % of normal. Light or moderate SW'ly wind on the 21st temporarily increased fresh on the 22nd, became NW'ly on 23rd, then SE'ly on 24th, veering N'ly by 27th, backing SE'ly by 30th.

B J Burton F.R.Met.S. Hon. Met. Officer to Wokingham Town Council.

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