

## July 2024 weather summary

**A month of contrasting halves but overall, slightly wetter and cooler but two short very warm/hot spells and below average sunshine.**

**Rainfall:** 57.2mm (111% of normal).

July was wetter than normal, but almost all the rainfall fell in the first 15 days (56.2mm) with only 1.0mm falling in the last 16 days. The first half of the month was the wettest since 2012 and the second half the driest since 1990. However, the July total overall of 57.2mm was the 47<sup>th</sup> wettest in the past 123 years.

The wettest day was 22.5mm on 5<sup>th</sup>, with generally steady rainfall falling over a period of 14.3 hours and 5.0mm falling in 1 hour, the highest total in 1 hour for the month. The maximum rainfall rate was 118mm/hr on 15<sup>th</sup> but was of short duration with 4.8mm falling during the hour. The number of rain days (0.2mm or more), were 10 (2 days less than average). The number of wet days (1.0mm or more) was 7 days (1 day less than normal), of which all fell in the first 15 days.

The longest 'dry spell' was 8 days 16<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup>.

### **Temperature:**

Overall, July was slightly cooler than normal with one brief 'hot day' on 20<sup>th</sup> and a mini heatwave on 29<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> which continued into the start of August.

The **mean maxima** were 22.6c (-0.6c below normal) but not as cool as 2021. Since 1981 (43 years), there have been 20 cooler mean maxima monthly temperatures for July. It was also the coolest first half of July since 2012 and before that 2004. However, a much warmer second half to the month, the 13<sup>th</sup> warmest in the last 43 years, brought the temperature closer to normal.

The highest temperature recorded was 30.8c (30<sup>th</sup>), with 4 days breaking the Heat index of 28c for the area.

The lowest maximum temperature was 16.9c (6<sup>th</sup>) and the lowest since 2015.

The **mean minima** were 12.8c (normal). But it was the coolest since 2024.

The highest temperature was 17.8c (31<sup>st</sup>) the highest since 2022 when a tropical night was recorded 20.3c. The lowest temperature recorded was 8.1c (8<sup>th</sup>). This was the coolest since 2020.

There were zero nights with an air frost, and there haven't been any since at least 1921 (123 years).

The **mean temperature** 17.7c (-0.3c below normal). Milder than 2023, but cooler than 2021 and 2022. Since 1981 (43 years) there have been 19 milder July's.

There were zero ground frost and lowest grass minimum recorded was 3.4c (8<sup>th</sup>).

**Sunshine:** A slightly duller month overall with 188.0 hours (94% of normal). This millennium there have been 13 duller July's.

However, the first half of the month (59.9 hours) was the dullest since 2012 and the 3<sup>rd</sup> dullest this millennium, but by contrast the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the month (128.1 hours) was the 5<sup>th</sup> sunniest this millennium. The sunniest day was 19<sup>th</sup> with 14.0 hours and there was only one sunless day.

**Thunder:** there were 2 days with thunder heard.

**Hail:** there were zero days with hail (>6mm).

**Snow falling** was zero days. **Snow lying** at 0900 GMT zero days.

**Fog:** at the 0900am observation there were zero days with fog observed.

**Wind gusts 50km/hr or more;** zero days reached this criteria,



**Photo: Sunny spells and showers 7<sup>th</sup> July 2024 viewed from Forest Road (Hurst) looking south towards Wokingham.**