

## METEOROLOGICAL REPORT FOR SHANKLIN, ISLE OF WIGHT FOR THE YEAR 2005

Clive Cooper

### Abstract

Shanklin Weather Station was established approximately 56 years ago. It is classed as a Health Resort Station and is owned and maintained by the Isle of Wight Council. The station is situated at The Mead, a park area just past Shanklin 'Old Village' towards the outskirts of the town and is 50 feet above sea level. The station is a simple one consisting of a 5" standard rain gauge and a Stevenson's Screen equipped with four thermometers. Readings and observations are taken twice daily at 09.00GMT and 17.00GMT. The Campbell Stokes recorder is located on the roof of Shanklin Theatre which, at 180 feet above sea level, is the highest point in the town. Readings here are taken at 17.00GMT. I have access to some old Weather Diaries and all averages refer to the period 1983 - 2005.

### Temperatures

The yearly mean temperature was 11.21°C and was 0.45°C above the long-term average. 2005 was cooler than 2002, 2003 and 2004, making it the 7th warmest year since 1983. The months with the highest positive anomalies were October with 2.4°C, January with 1.6°C, June with 1.2°C, September 1.0°C and both April and July each with 0.8°C. There were four months with a negative anomaly; August with 0.1°C, February with 0.4°C, November with 0.9°C and December with 1.0°C. Overall the mean minimum temperature was 0.5°C above the yearly average and the mean maximum was 0.4°C above the yearly average.

The highest temperature of the year was 26.2°C and occurred on 10th July. There was a total of 44 days (14 days more than the long-term average) when the temperature reached or exceeded 21.1°C (70°F); one in May, 11 in June, 14 in July, 14 in August and four in September. The lowest maximum daytime temperature of 1.6°C was recorded on 28th December. The highest overnight temperature was 17.2°C and was recorded on the 1st September. The lowest overnight minimum temperature was -5.0°C on 28th February. There was a total of 26 air frosts (defined as a temperature below 0.0°C); seven in February, five in March one in April, six in November and seven in December. The latest spring frost was recorded on 9 April. The first frost of the autumn was recorded on 18 November. This was the first November to register an air frost since 1999, and January 2005 was the first January since my records began in 1983 to be frost free.

### Rainfall

The rainfall for the year 2005 totalled 723.1mm representing 83% of the long-term average. 2005 was the driest year since 1991. There were 155 days with measurable rainfall. The three months with above average rainfall were August with 57.1mm (113% LTA), October with 154.1mm (129% LTA), and July with 72.1mm. (167% LTA). The nine months with below average rainfall were February with 20.5mm (32% LTA), September with 29.1mm (40% LTA), January with 53.8mm (54% LTA), March with 45.5mm (72% LTA), November with 80.7mm (75% LTA), December with 79.4mm (77% LTA), June with 35.0mm (78% LTA), April with 53.8mm (88% LTA), and May with 42.0mm (93% LTA).

An amount of rainfall reaching or exceeding 25.4mm(1 inch) in a 24hr period ending at 09.00GMT, occurred on two days; 24 July with 26.4mm and 23 October with 44.6mm.

### Sunshine

The total sunshine hours for 2005 was 2048.4 which represents 109% of the long-term average. The sunshine for the three summer months, June, July and August totalled 807.4 hours.

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The sunniest month of the year was August with 285.2 hours, representing 119% of its long-term average. During 2005 there were nine months with above average sunshine. The months with the highest sunshine anomalies were December with 155% LTA (90.5 hours), November with 146% LTA (116.7 hours), August with 119% LTA (285.2 hours), and February with 115% LTA (101.2 hours). The three months not to attain their monthly average were October with 87% LTA (107.4 hours), April with 92% LTA (175.1 hours) and March with 95% LTA (118.9 hours). The sunniest day of the year was 22 June when 15.5 hours of sunshine was recorded.

Between 1 May and 30 September there were 66 days on which over 10 hours of sunshine was recorded. This is seven days more than the long-term average.

### Miscellaneous Phenomena

#### Thunder

Thunder was heard on 9 days compared to the long-term average of 10; one in May, three in June, two in August, one in September and two in October.

#### Hail

Hail was recorded on 9 days; two in February, three in March, and one in each of April, May, October and December.

#### Sleet / Snow

Sleet and/or snow fell on 11 days: six days in February, four in March and one in December. The falls were mainly light in Shanklin although snow was observed lying on the downs on 5 March and 26 November (Only rain was recorded at Shanklin on the November 26.)

#### Gales

Gales occurred on 17 days during the year, six in January, two in February, one in March, one in August, two in October, three in November and two in December.

## MONTHLY WEATHER SUMMARY – 2005

MONTH	AVE. TEMP. °C	MEAN MAX. °C	MEAN MIN. °C	RAINFALL mm	SUNSHINE hours
JAN	7.3	9.4	5.1	53.8	75.8
FEB	4.9	7.3	2.6	20.5	101.2
MAR	7.0	10.0	4.0	45.5	118.9
APR	9.3	12.3	6.2	53.8	175.1
MAY	11.9	15.3	8.5	42.0	267.5
JUN	15.7	19.1	12.2	35.0	249.2
JLY	17.5	20.9	14.2	72.1	273.0
AUG	17.0	20.9	13.1	57.1	285.2
SEP	15.9	19.3	12.6	29.1	187.9
OCT	14.5	16.8	12.2	154.1	107.4
NOV	7.8	11.0	4.6	80.7	116.7
DEC	5.7	8.6	2.7	79.4	90.5
<b>YEARLY</b>	<b>11.2</b>	<b>14.2</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>723.1</b>	<b>2048.4</b>
<b>FIGURE</b>					

Author : Clive Cooper, 78 Whitecross Avenue, Shanklin, Isle of Wight PO37 7ET