

April 2024 weather summary

Wet, slightly cooler daytime temperature but milder nights, and duller than normal

Rainfall: 62.4mm (123% of normal).

April was wetter than normal and the 34th wettest in the past 123 years. It also continued the trend of wetter than normal months making it the 10th in a row. This April was the wettest since 2018.

The wet April keeps 2024 as the 6th wettest start to a year (January to April) in the last 123 years with 330.4mm, the wettest was 2014 (409.8mm).

The wettest day was 29.2mm on 27th, which was the highest April daily total since 29th April 1991 and the 3rd highest for April since at least 1908). The number of rain days (0.2mm or more), were 15 (2 days more than average). The number of wet days (1.0mm or more) was 13 days (4 days more than normal).

The maximum rate of rainfall was 21mm/hr on 16th and the most in 1 hour was 4.0mm on 27th. The highest duration (0.2mm/hr or more) in a 24-hour rainfall day was 13.2 hours (09hr 27th to 09hr 28th).

Temperature:

A mild start to the month, but cooler 2nd half. Overall the **mean maxima** were 14.5c (-0.2 below normal), but only the mildest since at least 2022 on local records and the 14th mildest since 1981 (43 years).

The highest temperature recorded was 20.3c (12th), but this doesn't feature in the top 10 temperatures this millennium, with the highest temperature 27.3c (19th) 2018.

The lowest maximum temperature was a cool 8.1c (22nd) and the lowest for the 2nd half of the month since 2018. The lowest since 1981 was 3.7c (4th 2013).

The **mean minima** were 6.8c (+2.0c above normal), mainly due to cloudy nights. It was the highest since 2018 and the 2nd highest since 1981 (43 years).

The highest temperature was 12.7c (6th) and is now the 3rd highest since at least 1981. In fact, three minima temperatures from April 2024 11.6(5th), 12.7c (6th) and 11.8c (13th) all feature in the top ten mildest nights since 1981 (43 years). The lowest temperature was 1.2c (25th) and the mildest since 2018.

There were zero nights with an air frost, (3 nights below normal) and it was the first April since 2018 and the 7th occurrence in the past 43 years for a frost-free April.

The **mean temperature** 10.6c (+0.9c above normal) and the mildest April since 2020. It was the 7th mildest in the past 43 years.

There were 6 ground frosts and lowest grass minimum recorded was -2.4c (25th).

Sunshine: A dull April with 156.6 hours (93% of normal) and the duller since 2018 (120.1 hours) and the 9th duller this millennium. However, there was only 1 sunless day, which is 2 lower than normal. The number of days with 10 hours or more was only 1 day, 4 lower than normal and the lowest since 2005 (equal with 2012).

Thunder; there was 1 day with thunder heard.

Hail; there was 1 day with hail (>6mm).

Snow falling was 0 days with snow falling. **Snow lying** at 0900 GMT 0 days.

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

Named Storms

STORM Kathleen (named by French Met Office) impacted this area on 6th/7th with gusty winds.

Wind gusts 50km/hr or more; 3 days reached this criteria,

- 7th 52km/hr SSW
- 9th 53km/hr SW
- 15th 65km/hr WSW



Photo: Flooding at Bearwood Recreation Ground following the 3rd highest daily rainfall total since 1908.