

## June 2018

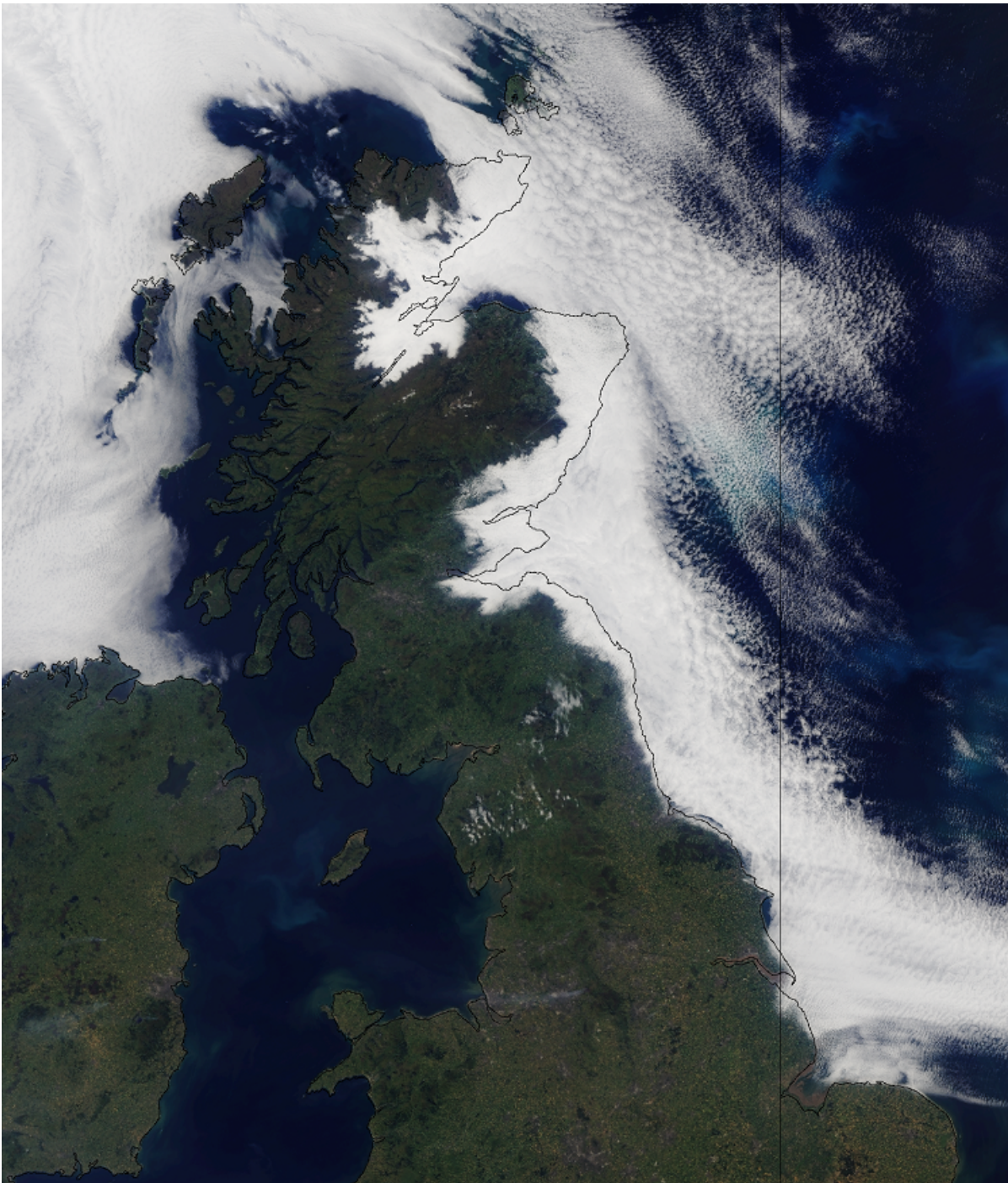
**The averaging period used for the following assessment was 1981-2010.**

The first week of June became increasingly settled, with temperatures rising well above average especially by day in northern and western areas. Eastern coasts were much cooler on some days due to onshore winds. It became less settled from the 9th onwards, and on 13th/14th there were some large rainfall totals in upland areas of western/southern Scotland and north-west England. The middle part of the month saw generally larger cloud amounts, with spells of rain mainly for Scotland, but from around the 21st onwards most areas were sunny and increasingly warm, with numerous locations exceeding 30 °C from the 25th onwards. Some southern areas saw very little rain throughout this month, with less than 2 mm at numerous stations.

The provisional UK mean temperature was 14.8 °C, which is 1.8 °C above the 1981-2010 long-term average, making it provisionally the third warmest June in a series from 1910. Mean maximum temperatures were between 2 and 3 °C above average in most areas, and furthest above average in western areas, while mean minimum temperatures were mostly not much more than 1 °C above average. Rainfall was 48% of average, and most notably well below average over most of England and Wales with less than 10% of average in some southern counties: for England it was provisionally the third driest June in a series from 1910. Sunshine was 142% of average, and with the exceptions of a few eastern and southern coastal locations sunshine was well above average nationwide, especially in northern and western areas; it was provisionally the fifth sunniest June in a series from 1929.

The UK monthly extremes were as follows: A maximum temperature of 33.0 °C was recorded at Porthmadog (Gwynedd) on the 28th. A minimum temperature of -1.0 °C was recorded at Altnaharra (Sutherland) on the 6th. In the 24 hours ending at 0900 GMT on the 14th, 44.6 mm of rain fell at Achnagart (Ross & Cromarty). A wind gust of 64 knots (74 mph) was recorded at Orlock Head (County Down) on the 14th.

The satellite image on 29 June 2018 shows low cloud affecting North Sea coasts of England and Scotland. Elsewhere this was another very warm day with temperatures widely reaching the mid to high 20s. Porthmadog (Gwynedd) recorded 32.5 °C and Castlederg (County Tyrone) recorded 30.2 °C. A plume of smoke extending westward from moorland fires in the Pennines to the east of Manchester is clearly visible. Image copyright Met Office / NASA / NOAA.



## Weather impacts

On the 1st, heavy rainfall in various parts of the country created surface water issues, with some roads such as the M50 temporarily blocked by water, and lightning damaged railway equipment between Birmingham and Wolverhampton. Thunderstorms also affected Northern Ireland and Scotland on the 2nd, while the fire service in Norfolk received dozens of flood-related calls. Part of the ceiling collapsed at Norwich Airport and several roads were impassable due to floodwater. Flooding in Lincolnshire also caused some delays to rail travel, and over 20 properties flooded in Sutton-on-Trent in Nottinghamshire. In Scotland, there was flash flooding in Ballater, with cars submerged in Kilsyth, and Scotrail reported flooded rails near Cumbernauld.

Heavy showers and thunderstorms over Northern Ireland and parts of Scotland on the 9th led to surface water issues on the M74 at junction 12, and hail caused slow traffic, the hail reportedly looking like the snow from earlier in the year; as the hail melted, surface water issues affected the A9. Scotrail reported delays due to flooded tracks at Dalmuir.

An approaching storm system, notably intense for the time of year, was named as Hector. Strongest winds were late on the 13th and the morning of the 14th, with heavy rain also in north-western parts of Britain. In

Northern Ireland, ferries to Rathlin were cancelled, over 300 incidents of obstructions on the roads were reported, and around 20,000 customers lost their electricity supply for a time at least. Belfast Harbour said that two cruise ships were unable to berth due to heavy seas. In Scotland, a woman was seriously injured by falling debris in Edinburgh, a number of bridges were closed to high-sided vehicles, fallen trees disrupted road and rail travel across the country, and many ferry services reported cancellations or disruption. Across the north of England, fallen trees partially blocked numerous roads, and the West Coast main line was disrupted due to a tree falling onto overhead wires.

After this most areas experienced fine and increasingly warm weather, and pollen and UV were high or very high across most of the UK. Over the last ten days of the month, numerous wildfires occurred, for example in Surrey and on the Salisbury Plain. The Winter Hill wildfire north of Manchester was declared a major incident; other wildfires included one near the Glenshanne Pass in Northern Ireland, and another near Falla Hill Place in Fauldhouse, Scotland. The heat affected travel with concern over rails buckling resulting in speed restrictions on many routes, and rails reportedly failed at Purley, causing disruption on Southern Rail. Low river levels in parts of Herefordshire resulted in fish stocks being moved to deeper watercourses. In Worcestershire and Aberdeenshire, councils used gritters to dust some routes as they had become too hot. Northern Ireland Water issued a hosepipe ban, with other water companies asking the public to conserve water.

## England diary of highlights

**June was mostly warm and quite settled until the 12th, although often cooler near the east coast, with variable amounts of cloud and some scattered thundery showers at times, these mainly in the north. There was an unsettled westerly spell from the 13th to 20th, and it was notably windy on the 14th, but rainfall amounts were small in southern areas. High pressure brought dry and very sunny and increasingly hot weather by day from the 21st onwards, while it was relatively cool by night.**

The mean temperature for June was provisionally 1.8 °C above the 1981-2010 long-term average, making it the 4th warmest June in a series from 1910. With just 24% of average rainfall it was provisionally the 3rd driest June in a series from 1910, and it was particularly dry in the south where some regions had their driest June for over 100 years. Sunshine was 136% of average, making it provisionally the 5th sunniest June in a series from 1929, and it was especially sunny in the north-west.

### 1st to 5th

It was generally warm in central and western areas but cooler in the east with frequent low cloud near the east coast. The 1st was cloudy for most with thundery showers developing in places, especially in the north and south-west. Thundery showers and longer spells of rain affected the north and east on the 2nd with 33.6 mm of rain at Fylingdales (North Yorkshire) but most other areas were sunny and warm. Northern areas had a cloudy showery day on the 3rd but most central and southern parts were sunny with isolated showers. The 4th was cloudy in the north and east but brighter in the west with isolated showers. The 5th was cloudy in the south-west but it was sunny elsewhere, albeit a little cooler.

### 6th to 12th

The weather continued mostly warm and settled but with variable cloud, and scattered thundery showers broke out on most days, although many places stayed dry. After a minimum of 1.9 °C at Shap (Cumbria), the 6th was mostly sunny away from the north-east. The 7th was cloudy in the south with a little showery rain for some, but mostly sunny elsewhere. Scattered outbreaks of mostly light rain affected central and north-eastern areas on the 8th, extending into the south-west in the afternoon, dry elsewhere but mostly cloudy except for the far south-east. The 9th and 10th saw cloudy starts for most followed by brighter weather but also scattered thundery showers especially in the north. The 11th was generally sunny, the 12th rather cloudier, with isolated showers on both days.

### 13th to 20th

This period was somewhat more unsettled with westerly winds although rainfall amounts were small over much of the south. After a bright start to the 13th, cloud and rain spread from the west associated with Storm Hector, and the 14th was windy, especially in the north, with a gust of 71 mph at Spadeadam (Cumbria) and patchy rain cleared followed by brighter weather with a few showers across the north. The 15th was dry and sunny in the south-east but cloudier elsewhere with scattered showers. Rain for most early on the 16th was followed by brighter weather but with showers and thunderstorms in the north from late afternoon. It was generally cloudy and humid from the 17th to 20th with a little light rain at times, but the 18th saw warm sunshine develop across eastern and south-eastern areas and the 20th was sunny in the far south-east.

### **21st to 30th**

High pressure built over the British Isles and brought a spell of warm/hot and sunny weather by day, while nights were often relatively cool. From the 21st to 25th it was dry and sunny and progressively warmer by day almost everywhere, although the 23rd had more high cloud and some isolated showers near the east coast. High pressure moved further north from the 26th onwards resulting in lower temperatures and low cloud affecting eastern coastal areas at times, but otherwise it remained dry and sunny and most places were also hot. Maximum temperatures included 30.7 °C at Rostherne (Cheshire) on the 26th, 30.3 °C at Carlisle (Cumbria) on the 28th and 30.6 °C at Keswick (Cumbria) on the 29th, with Morecambe (Lancashire) recording 16.6 hours of sunshine on the 30th.

## **Wales diary of highlights**

**June started off with some thundery showers in places but otherwise it was mostly settled and warm until the 12th, with a fair amount of sunshine but also some cloudier days. Westerly winds brought an unsettled spell from the 13th to 20th and it was unseasonably windy on the 14th. From the 21st onwards, high pressure brought dry weather and almost unbroken sunshine to most of the country, and it turned increasingly hot during the last few days.**

The mean temperature for June was provisionally 2.2 °C above the long-term average, making it the warmest June in a series from 1910. It was also the 4th driest June in a series from 1910, and the 4th sunniest in a series from 1929, with 22% of average rainfall and 150% of average sunshine overall.

### **1st to 12th**

The 1st was mostly cloudy with isolated thundery showers developing into the afternoon; 26.2 mm of rain was recorded at Hawarden (Clywd). The 2nd had a few showers across the north but elsewhere it was generally sunny after a cloudy start. The 3rd was also mostly sunny but some cloud bubbled up during the afternoon. The 4th and 5th both started cloudy and then became sunny, though with a few showers for the south-west on the 4th. The 6th and 7th continued mostly sunny and warm but with some showers for central and southern parts on the 7th. The 8th was cloudier with scattered outbreaks of mainly light rain, then it brightened up on the 9th but still with some scattered showers. Warm and mostly sunny weather returned on the 10th and 11th, with a few isolated afternoon showers but most places remained dry. The 12th was generally cloudier with a few showers in the south during the afternoon, but the west coast remained sunny.

### **13th to 20th**

This period was generally cooler and somewhat more unsettled with westerly winds. Storm Hector brought increasingly wet and windy weather from the west on the 13th after a bright start. The 14th was very windy with rain in the morning clearing to leave a bright afternoon, and gusts reached 71 mph at Capel Curig (Gwynedd). The 15th saw some brightness in certain areas but with a few showers during the morning. The 16th started wet in most places but gradually turned drier and brighter into the afternoon. It was cloudy and humid from the 17th to 20th, with some outbreaks of rain on the 17th and some light rain spreading south-east on the 20th, while the 18th and 19th were mostly dry but remained cloudy.

## 21st to 30th

High pressure brought a spell of dry and very sunny and increasingly hot weather, and many sites reported over 10 hours of sunshine on each day. Nights were relatively cool, especially early in the period, with a minimum of 0.2 °C recorded at Swyddffynnon (Dyfed) and Sennybridge (Powys) early on the 22nd. The weather turned hottest on the last four days, and Porthmadog (Gwynedd) recorded a high of 31.9 °C on the 27th, 33.0 °C on the 28th and 32.5 °C on the 29th. On the 28th, Valley (Gwynedd) recorded 16.1 hours of bright sunshine.

## Scotland diary of highlights

June's weather was relatively warm and quiet until the 12th but thundery showers broke out on some days, especially in the west and south. It was somewhat more unsettled from the 13th to 20th and unseasonably windy on the 14th. From the 21st onwards it was mostly dry, sunny and increasingly warm, and especially so during the last few days, except near the east coast where it was often cooler with low cloud.

The mean temperature for June was provisionally 1.7 °C above the long-term average, making it the equal-third warmest June in a series from 1910. Rainfall was 80% of average, and it was a dry month in the north-east but with near-average rainfall in most western and southern counties. It was a very sunny month except around the Firth of Forth, with 147% of average sunshine overall, making it the 5th sunniest June in a series from 1929.

### 1st to 5th

It was generally warm except near the east coast, with thundery showers breaking out by day, especially across the west and south, and particularly on the 1st and 2nd. The 3rd was mostly cloudy in the east and south with showers and longer spells of rain persisting across the south and locally heavy showers breaking out in central and western parts. The 4th had fewer showers and was mostly sunny and warm in the west but dull and misty in the east. Early low cloud and drizzle cleared on the 5th leaving a warm sunny day except near the west coast.

### 6th to 12th

The 6th to 8th were generally warm and sunny following clearance of low cloud, though the 7th and 8th saw scattered thundery showers break out in the west. Showers and thunderstorms broke out more widely on the 9th and 10th when it was also generally cloudier, although the 9th was sunny in the south-west. The 11th and 12th saw somewhat fewer showers but remained quite cloudy except in some western parts.

### 13th to 20th

The weather was somewhat more unsettled during this period with westerly winds. Storm Hector brought unseasonably wet and windy weather late on the 13th following a bright start, and 44.6 mm of rain was recorded at Achnagart (Ross & Cromarty). Gusts widely exceeded 60 mph early on the 14th, reaching 66 mph at Sella Ness (Shetland), with rain followed by sunshine and blustery showers. The 15th had a mix of sunshine and showers, and rain spread eastwards on the 16th followed by showers, with isolated thunderstorms over the Borders. After a bright start in the east on the 17th, showers and longer spells of rain, mainly in the west, spread east later in the day. The 18th was mainly cloudy and dry with showers across the north-west late afternoon and evening and some light rain and drizzle in the south, but it was sunny in the north-east. The 19th was again cloudy for most, with some patchy rain for the south-west and more general rain for the west late in the day, but sunny and dry in the Northern Isles. The 20th was another mainly cloudy day with rain clearing the east followed by showers.

### 21st to 30th

High pressure brought a notable spell of dry, sunny and increasingly warm weather. The 21st had a few showers in the north and it remained cloudy and showery in Shetland but it was generally sunny elsewhere, and the 22nd was another sunny day for many, but cloudier with a few scattered showers in the north. The 23rd was generally cloudier, with a wet morning across the north. The cloud broke up on the 24th allowing plenty of sunshine to develop for most, and the 25th was a sunny day away from the far north-west. There was widespread high cloud on the 26th with some rain for the west and north and low cloud near the east coast. From the 27th to 30th low cloud was quite persistent near the east coast, particularly on the 29th, but otherwise it was very sunny and warm/hot. Temperatures reached 31.3 °C at Aviemore (Inverness-shire) on the 27th, 31.9 °C at Bishopston (Renfrewshire) on the 28th, and 30.0 °C at Cromdale (Morayshire) on the 30th.

## Northern Ireland diary of highlights

**June began with thundery showers in many places, but it was mostly warm and sunny during the first third of the month. It was somewhat more unsettled from the 13th to 20th with westerly winds, and unseasonably windy on the 14th. From the 21st onwards it was mostly dry, sunny, and increasingly hot.**

The mean temperature for June was provisionally 2.1 °C above the 1981-2010 average and it was the warmest June in a series from 1910. It was a dry month but not exceptionally so, with 64% of average rainfall. Sunshine was 159% of average, making it the 5th sunniest June in a series from 1929.

### 1st to 12th

It was mostly warm and settled during this period but with some thundery showers at times. The 1st and 2nd started off dry but showers and thunderstorms developed widely during the afternoon and into the evening. Isolated showers early on the 3rd died away followed by a sunny day. The 4th and 5th were mostly sunny with just isolated afternoon showers. It remained mostly warm and sunny between the 6th and 9th following early clearance of low cloud from some areas, and afternoon showers were again isolated on the 6th and 7th. While showers on the 8th and 9th were again quite isolated, some of them were heavy and thundery. The 10th, 11th and 12th were generally cloudier with isolated showers.

### 13th to 20th

Westerly winds temporarily set in and brought somewhat more unsettled weather. Storm Hector gave increasingly wet and windy weather from late morning on the 13th, and the 14th was unseasonably windy with sunshine and showers, gusts reaching 74 mph at Orlock Head (County Down). The 15th was less windy, but it was cloudy with showers followed by a spell of wet weather in the afternoon. Rain early on the 16th turned showery towards midday and there were thunderstorms in the east in the afternoon. The 17th was mostly cloudy with patchy rain, and the 18th saw further patchy rain and drizzle mainly across western areas, but it brightened up in the evening. The 19th was another cloudy day and persistent rain spread in during the afternoon and evening with 26.4 mm falling at Killylane (County Antrim). The 20th was mainly dry and cloudy, although showers moved in from the north in the evening.

### 21st to 30th

High pressure brought a noteworthy spell of dry, sunny and increasingly hot weather. The 21st had a few showers across the north in the morning but was otherwise dry with sunny spells, and the 22nd continued dry, sunny and warm with just isolated afternoon showers. There was a minimum of 2.1 °C at Katesbridge (County Down) early on the 23rd, followed by another dry sunny day. There was some early fog in the far south of the Province on the 24th which quickly cleared, and isolated light showers on the 25th, but otherwise these two days were sunny and warm again. The 26th was cloudier with rain in the north in the morning but turned sunny in the afternoon. The 27th to 29th were hot and sunny inland, cooler on coasts, with a high of 30.0 °C at Castlederg (County Tyrone) on the 27th, 30.5 °C at Derrylin and Thomastown (County Fermanagh) and Edenfel (County Tyrone) on the 28th, and 30.2 °C at Edenfel on the 29th. The 30th was also dry and sunny but generally less hot. Aldergrove (County Antrim) recorded 15.9 hours of sunshine on the 29th and 30th.

