



Weather chart for 0700 UTC on 31 May 1911

Daily weather extremes

Highest Maximum Temperature:
27.8 °C at Greenwich, Royal Observatory (London) and South Kensington (London)

Lowest Maximum Temperature:
13.3 °C at Wick (Caithness)

Lowest Minimum Temperature:
6.1 °C at Wick (Caithness) and Nairn (Nairnshire)

Most Rainfall:
91.2 mm at Banstead, The Hall (Surrey)

Most Sunshine:
13.8 hours at Jersey, St. Aubin (Channel Islands)

General summary

For much of the United Kingdom it was a dry night with clear spells. Isolated thunderstorms affected parts of southeast England and low cloud and misty conditions, with the odd spot of rain or drizzle affected North Sea coasts from Lincolnshire to the Scottish Borders.

The morning dawned dry and bright for many with good spells of sunshine developing which continued into the afternoon. Low cloud and misty conditions prevailed along North Sea coasts for much of the day. Across northeast England, the cloud was thick enough to produce outbreaks of rain and drizzle. Isolated thunderstorms continued during the morning and these developed more widely across southeast England into the afternoon. Severe thunderstorms affected the London area causing flash floods and severe disruption to public transport. One particular thunderstorm interrupted the Derby Day event on Epsom Downs resulting in 17 people being killed along with 4 horses. The thunderstorms across southeast England slowly died away during the evening and here it turned rather misty. Misty conditions also continued across eastern coastal areas but for many central and western parts it was a fine evening with clear spells.

Winds generally were light and from the southeast.

Temperatures were above the late May average generally and very warm, locally hot, across parts of southeast England.

Significant weather event

- 17 people killed along with 4 horses
- 159 flashes of sheet or fork lightning in a 15 minute period around 17.30 recorded at Epsom
- Hail 1½ to 2 inches in diameter fell at Sutton
- Landslides closed both the Great Western Railway at Park Royal and the London and South Eastern Railway at Merstham
- Hail lay 15 cm deep at Bletchington
- 62 mm of rain fell in just 50 minutes at Banstead

24-hour rainfall totals

	Rainfall	
	(mm)	(in.)
Banstead, The Hall (Surrey)	91.2	3.59
Banstead, Basing House (Surrey)	89.9	3.54
Harrow, Bessborough Road (Middlesex)	81.0	3.19
Chipstead, Nepicar (Surrey)	76.2	3.00
Epsom (Surrey)	72.6	2.86
Sutton, Camborne Road (Surrey)	61.0	2.40

Daily weather statistics

	London	Edinburgh	Cardiff	Belfast
Maximum Temperature/°C:	27.8	16.1	19.4	18.3
Minimum Temperature/°C:	11.7	10.6	12.8	10.0
Rainfall Amount/mm:	25.4	0.0	0.3	0.0
Sunshine Amount/hours:	7.1	5.8	12.7	12.0