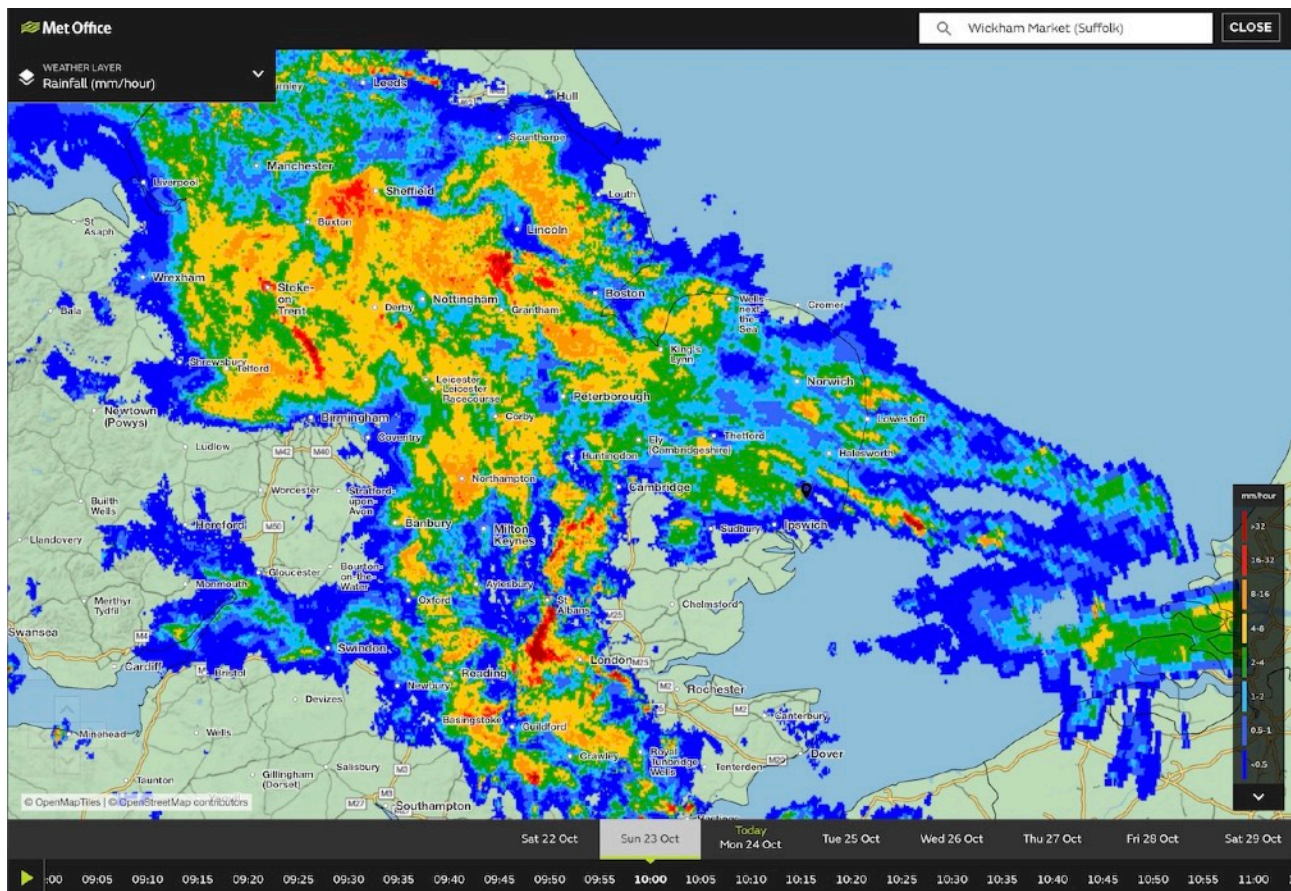


Weather for the Autumn Quarter 2022

September was rather "Septemberish" - in other words, some sunshine, some rain, occasional windy days and close to expected temperatures. All this was very welcome after the exceptionally hot, dry weather in July and August signalling a return to normality. We had 24 mm of rain in the first ten days of the month, far more rain than the 4.5 mm in the whole of July and August. The last day of the month brought 11 mm of rain between 3.00 pm and midnight! By then there was a real feel of Autumn in the air. The grass was beginning to show some green again after the dry summer and the trees were displaying the golds and reds that would take us into October.

October, as it turned out, was also rather "Septemberish", that is to say it was damp and surprisingly mild. As seemed to be the case in much of 2022 southerly winds brought us warm air up from France and Spain. The average temperature over the whole month was 18.1°C compared to a 10-year average of 16.7°C. The total rainfall for the month was 45.8 mm, just about 2/3 of what we might normally expect in October - contributing to what had become a very dry year. Despite the rain (there were 21 'rain days') it was also quite sunny with 138 hrs of sunshine recorded at Wattisham compared with a 10-year average of 99.

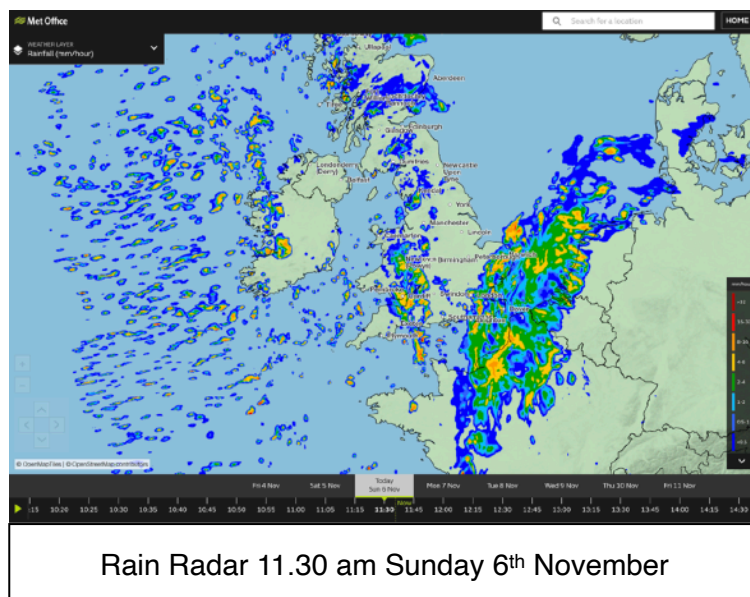


Rain Radar plot for 10.00 am on Saturday 23rd October.

This chart shows the sort of detail that is now available on the Met Office Website or Weather App which were upgraded in October

In October the Met Office upgraded the forecast maps available on the website or via the app. There is now much more detail and longer forecasts.

November brought us some 'proper' Autumn Weather at last with bands of cloud and rain sweeping across the country. For once Wickham Market got a reasonable share of the rain with 24.3 mm of rain overnight on Thursday/Friday 3/4th November and then a further 15.4 mm on Sunday 6th. Once again a band of rain moved slowly North north easterly across us so that we sat under it for most of the day. The rain was not particularly heavy, but it was very persistent.



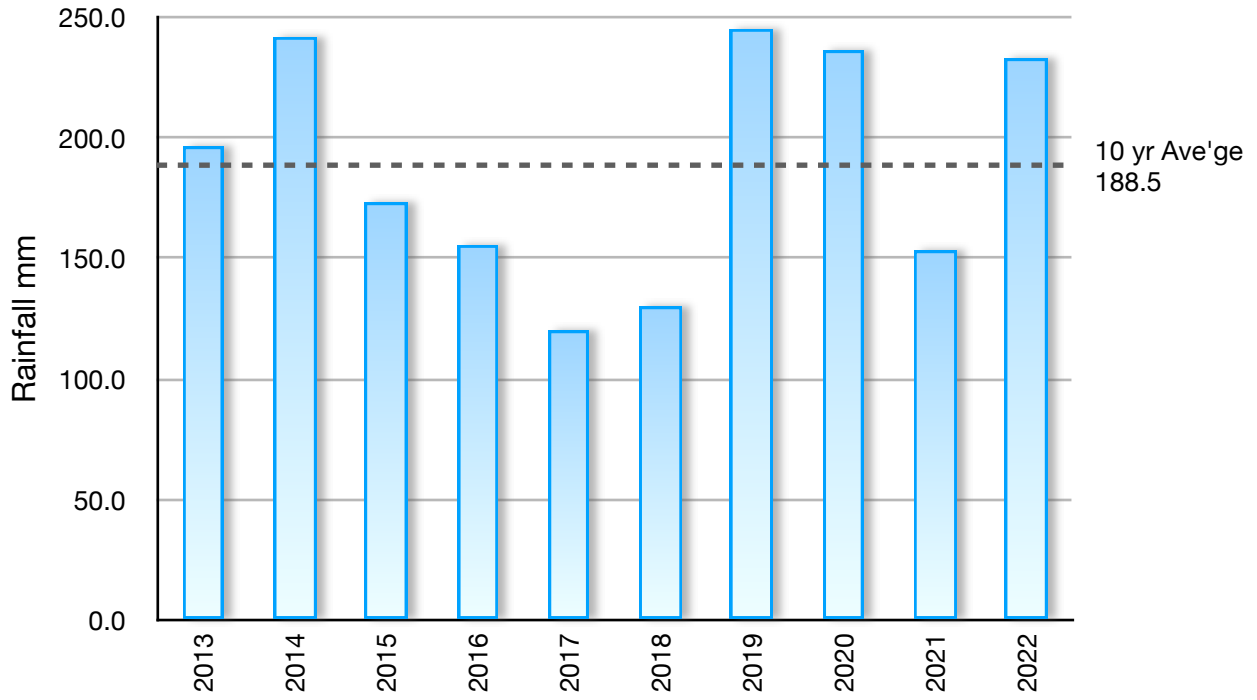
Of course the good thing about bands of cloud and rain is that you get blue skies in between and we did have some very clear skies on 4th leading to a chilly night with a minimum of 2.9°C - our first 'non-quite frost' of the year. However then the 10th to the 12th gave us more warm southerly air and exceptionally warm days reaching 16.7°C at 2.00 pm on Saturday 12th.

Cloud and rain continued to sweep across the country for most of the rest of the month with many places recording rainfall well above normal. It was certainly a wet November in Wickham Market with a final total of 148.3 mm, compared with a 10-year average of just 68.5 mm. There were only 3 'dry' days in the whole month. Between the bands of cloud we did have some clear spells giving us a few very sunny days and a few cold nights. However only on two nights did the temperature get down to zero or below, and even then only very briefly. Sunshine, not surprisingly, was in very short supply with just 48.2 hours of sunshine recorded at Wattisham compared with a 10-year average of 73.3.

Overall the Autumn quarter was mild but damp. There was a good deal of sunshine in October, but September was just below average and November was very dull indeed. The grey weather at the end of the quarter left us with the impression that the Autumn had been wet overall, but 2014, 2019 and 2020 were wetter. The extra rain must have made some significant contribution to the ground water deficit, but several Water Companies across the country remain concerned about the after effects of the dry winter and Spring in 2021/22.

November was certainly not a good month for gardening and much of the usual Autumn clear up remained undone - it will now have to wait for the Spring.

Autumn (Sept, Oct and Nov) Rainfall 2022



Average Maximum and Minimum Temperatures

