

## Weather for the Spring Quarter 2023

The morning of 7<sup>th</sup> March saw the first snow covering of 2023 in Wickham, but the temperature was barely below freezing and the snow was quickly gone. Much more snow was forecast for later in the week for Scotland and Northern England. Friday 10<sup>th</sup> brought significant snow to Wickham (but again the ground was far too warm for it to settle ) as warm moist south-westerlies met the cold arctic winds. However by Monday 13<sup>th</sup> we had a maximum temperature of 15.7°C and a strong wind warning. Just under half way through the month and we had already had 30 mm of rain. It seemed that early March was throwing everything at us!

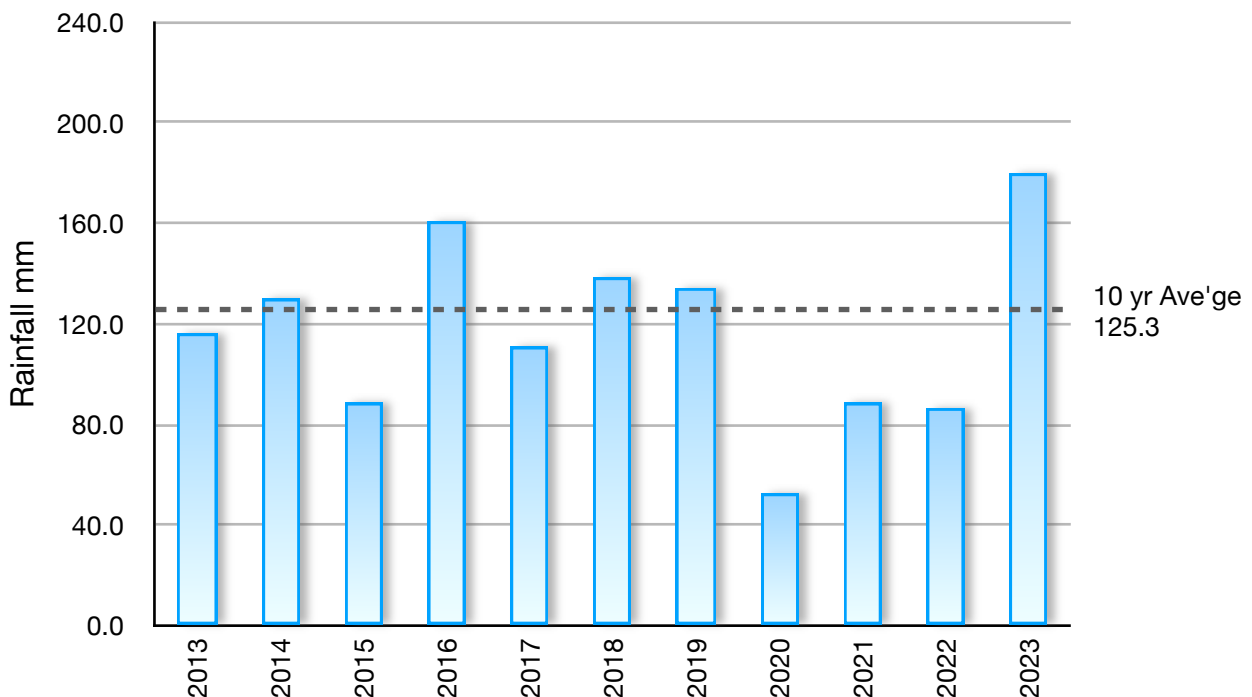
March then settled into an Atlantic weather pattern giving us south-westerly winds and a string of fronts bringing rain. It was generally mild and often quite grey. Altogether the month gave us 84.9 mm of rain compared to a 10-year average of 39.4 mm. I'm sure we needed the rain after such a dry February, but it did rather restrict gardening activities. It was also a notable dull cloudy month with 26 days on which some rain fell.

April opened in a similar wet pattern, but we then had a couple of glorious sunny days to remind us what we had been missing. However the month proved to have a recurring wet theme with a total of 21 rain days and 51.3 mm of rain in total compared to a 10-year average of 22.7mm. We could have done with more warmth and a little less rain, but we should at least be grateful for the generous contribution to the ground water.

The beginning of May was rather like April, if slightly warmer, but after 12<sup>th</sup> we had almost no rain at all through to the end of the month. This was a long enough dry spell for the grass to be already be showing signs of brown - and the summer hadn't even started.

Overall the Spring quarter was cooler and wetter than the 10-year averages and then straight into drought - not really ideal growing conditions.

**Spring (February, March and April) Rainfall 2023**



## Average Maximum and Minimum Temperatures

